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## Netanyahu: Obtaining a public consensus is not a joke

By HERS KEINON

Proposals to hold a referendum on the second-stage withdrawal gained momentum yesterday, as Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu met with a number of cabinet ministers and discussed ways of holding the vote, as well as a target date.

An official in the Prime Minister's Office said that one of the ideas raised for holding the referendum was to use magnetic ballots that would be sent to all voters, which would then be cast

at post offices. One of the target dates mentioned, the official said, was mid-September.

No final decisions were made at the meeting, attended by Justice Minister Tzahi Hanegbi, Communications Minister Limor Livnat, Interior Minister Eli Shais, and cabinet secretary Dan Naveh.

Further discussions are scheduled for today, with Hanegbi due to lead deliberations on regulations to govern campaigning in the electronic media.

Speaking to reporters at the Israel Democracy Institute's eco-

nomics conference in Zichron Ya'acov, Netanyahu said: "I think that obtaining a consensus in the public is not a joke, but something important."

In a criticism of the Rabin government, which passed the Oslo 2 accords on the strength of renegade Likud MKs Gonen Segev and Alex Goldfarb, he added: "I always said that I wanted the widest consensus possible for diplomatic agreements, in contrast to how another government acted."

Netanyahu said he is confident a



decision on the referendum will gain ministerial support, despite

criticism already levelled by some ministers, including Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Netanyahu, during a separate appearance in Ramat Gan, blasted Palestinian moves to upgrade the status of the PLO mission at the UN. He warned that if these plans are approved, they will severely damage the peace process.

"We are hearing of plans to violate the agreement. Upgrading the PLO's representation at the UN is a violation of the agreement," Netanyahu said. "If this is done, it will cause grave damage to the

peace process, and we cannot accept it."

Netanyahu said his government is doing everything it can to "minimize the damage" of the Oslo accords. "We inherited a problematic agreement and we are doing everything to minimize the damage," he said. "We are not willing to give the minimum, and receive what has been promised us."

Mordechai yesterday continued to express skepticism over the effectiveness of a referendum.

"I never said it was a bad thing,"

he told reporters during a visit to the Gaza Strip. "I only said that I am studying the matter and will continue to study it. I will state my opinion when I understand the referendum and its significance."

"What is a referendum and what service can it provide?" Mordechai asked.

The opposition, meanwhile, vowed yesterday to fight against the referendum and foil the legislation to pave the way for it.

*Avish O'Sullivan, Dan Izenberg and Michal Tadelman contributed to this report.*

## First F-15Is operational

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

The first of the US-built F-15I long-range strike aircraft which arrived in January are now operational and able to carry out extended missions anywhere in the Middle East, a senior Israel Air Force commander said yesterday.

"The morale at the base is high," said Brig. Gen. Amos, commander of Hatzirim Air Force Base in the Negev, where the squadron of 25 F-15Is purchased from the US is being assembled. Amos, whose last name is classified, declined to say how many of the F-15Is have been delivered since the first touched down in January.

"But Air Force Magazine said a pair arrives each month and that by the end of the year all 25 would be here."

"We have become operational a few months after the planes arrived," said Amos. "I know this is The Jerusalem Post and it reads all over the world. The jet can participate [today] in any mission or war."

This is the first time the air force has acknowledged that its F-15Is are operational. The IAF has reportedly fast-tracked the planes as soon as they arrive, outfitting them with the LANTIRN and Sharpshooter pods.

According to the latest edition of Air Force Magazine, pilots have already honed their striking skills on the F-15I, which is a "specialty" aircraft. The aircraft's operating radius of the F-15I is 1,400 kilometers, which allows it to reach any spot in the Middle East and return without refueling. In-flight refueling capabilities give it an operational radius of 2,000 kilometers.

The training aircraft was moved forward due to the military's Iraqi Scud missile threat. This reportedly includes air-to-ground attack training and testing of munitions. The magazine said the squadron was operational six months before the Scud threat. Each F-15I costs about \$25 million, with the entire fleet valued at \$2.5 billion, including spare parts.

"It's a very impressive jet," said Amos, who has flown the F-15I. "They are the spearhead of the air force. They can do any mission better than any other jet," he said.

"What is beautiful about the F-15I is that it is the best in air-to-air combat, it carries the most sophisticated missiles, it has a [Dash] display and sight helmet system, it has an excellent radar. So if we need it for air-to-air combat it is there. If we need it for long distance, air-to-ground operations it is there. If we need it to perform tasks at night or in bad weather it is there."

Israel purchased the F-15I to give it a greatly enhanced over-the-horizon capability. This means it has the ability to strike nations like Iran, which is trying to build missiles capable of reaching here and to acquire nuclear weapons.

The respected, London-based Jane's Information Group predicted in its annual conflict scenario that Israel would launch a limited preemptive attack on Iran's nuclear and R&D infrastructure before it can produce ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads.

See F-15I, Page 3



MK Salah Tarif (center) tries to restrain MK Nissan Slomiansky as he argues with MK Salah Salim yesterday. (Brian Henders)

## MK Salim: Kill land dealers who sell to Jews

By ELLI WOHLGELER

Jerusalem police have begun investigating MK Salah Salim (Hadash), who said yesterday that Arab land-dealers who sell to Jews should be "killed off and made into meat balls."

Police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby said investigators will ask Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon for permission to question Salim - who otherwise has parliamentary immunity - on charges of inciting to violence.

"I'm amazed at the Palestinians," Salim said, in the midst of a heated argument with other MKs. "Why have they stopped eliminating land-dealers. They should be killed off

and made into meat balls. Go ahead and record it well! Why have they stopped killing the treacherous land-dealers, who are betraying their people?"

Salim became embroiled in a heated debate with Benny Elon (Mokedet) and Nissan Slomiansky (National Religious Party) during an Interior Committee tour of the Annet Cohanim excavation site in Jerusalem's Old City.

Committee members got into a screaming argument, played out before the media, over the ongoing controversy of Jews living in the Moslem Quarter, and over which people had been there longer.

The shouting reached its cli-

max when Slomiansky said Arabs have a democratic right to sell to anyone they chose, and Salim implied that those Arabs selling land to Jews should be murdered. Elon and Slomiansky protested his remarks, and the

Israeli Arabs to boycott settler goods, Page 2

MKS had to be held apart by committee chairman Salah Tarif, who kept shouting at everyone to stop shouting.

"I think it's amazing - it's beyond my imagination - to hear openly in front of the media an

MK say that we have to kill Israeli citizens because they are real estate agents," said Elon. "The attorney-general has to listen to the radio today and to the TV."

The shouting took place as Antiquities Authority head Amir Drori was attempting to explain what the authority had found at the dig since beginning two weeks ago.

Early finds show a number of different periods are represented - Medieval, Ottoman, Mamluke, and early Islamic. Preliminary evidence of artifacts from the Byzantine, Roman, and possibly Second Temple periods has also been found.

See SALIM, Page 3

## Knesset panel refuses to modify the conversion bill

By DAN ZENBERG

The Knesset Law Committee yesterday refused to add the Neeman Committee recommendations to the text of the conversion bill passed on first reading on April 1.

An unusual coalition of United Torah Judaism, Labor, Meretz, and Likud MKs insisted that the committee's recommendations constituted a "new topic," and demanded that the House Committee first rule on whether they could be added.

Committee chairman Hanan Porat said he would bring the matter before the House Committee in the next few days. Based on the balance of power, it looks like the committee will vote against the addition.

If that is the case, the government will have to draft a separate bill containing the Neeman recommendations and have it approved on first reading. Only then will Porat be able to merge

the two texts into a single bill, as he had hoped to do yesterday.

Porat said the government could prepare the bill and pass it in first reading by the end of the current session on July 29.

Haggai Merom (Labor) told

UJA head warns of rift over conversion bill, Page 4

the committee the government is trying to avoid a coalition crisis by including the recommendations in legislation which has already passed first reading, because it knows that the haredi parties would veto them in the cabinet.

The recommendations assert that all conversions must be carried out by Orthodox rabbinical courts, but call for the establishment of pluralistic institutions for Jewish studies including representatives of all streams of Judaism,

where candidates will study Judaism in preparation for conversion.

The recommendations were fashioned into a legal text by Deputy Attorney-General Neam Solberg. The text was not approved by the cabinet.

The decision means there will be another delay in the government's attempts to head off a High Court of Justice ruling on the conversion dispute. There are currently four cases before the High Court and the Jerusalem District Court involving Reform and Conservative demands that their converts be registered as Jews by the Interior Ministry.

The court has so far avoided ordering the ministry to register the converts, but in its last decision, indicated that if the Knesset does not formalize the situation soon, it would be forced to act.

See CONVERSION, Page 2

## Netanyahu: No cut in inflation in '99

By DAVID HARRIS

Inflation next year will not be allowed to fall below its 1998 level, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday.

Closing the sixth annual Israel Democracy Institute conference in Zichron Ya'acov, Netanyahu also said he is in favor of widespread tax reform, will continue to push for a computer for every child, and will soon introduce a 42-minute journey time on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem rail line.

Speaking to journalists afterwards, Netanyahu said he is happy with the achievements on the inflation front.

"We've already substantially reduced it, more than we set as a target," he said. "I think we have other goals, which are no less important, such as growth, and we should use this as a model for them."

Netanyahu said by 2000 Israel will have inflation at the level of other industrialized countries.

He would not comment on suggestions that Finance Minister Yaakov Neeman is considering



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu addresses the annual Israel Democracy Institute conference yesterday in Zichron Ya'acov. (Gideon Markovitz)

taxing the stock exchange, but not by means of a capital gains tax.

"[Neeman] and I have agreed to introduce a comprehensive reform of the tax system to allow for a reduction in marginal tax

rates," he said. "Marginal taxes in this country are crazy." He said Neeman is still working on the proposals, which will be introduced shortly.

See INFLATION, Page 3



## NEWS

in brief

### MK seeks fraud probe of 200 yeshiva heads

MK Ran Cohen (Meretz) yesterday asked Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein to order then police to begin an investigation of 200 yeshiva heads, who requested and received funding from the Religious Affairs Ministry for non-existent students. He said the fact the these yeshiva heads only withdrew their requests when threatened with an independent audit shows that their intent was to defraud the state. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### Armed clerk shoots would-be bank robber

An bank clerk yesterday shot and wounded a man who attempted to rob a Bank Discount branch in Tel Aviv. The clerk is a member of the Civil Guard. The robber, masked and armed with a pistol, entered the bank and told the teller to put money in a bag that he gave her. An armed clerk told the robber to drop his weapon, who in fright began to fire his weapon at the bank's customers. The clerk then fired. The robber is being held under police guard in Ichilov Hospital and was reported in moderate condition. *Itim*

### Illegally built homes demolished

Bulldozers of the Judea and Samaria Civil Administration, protected by IDF troops, yesterday demolished three homes and a number of tents put up illegally by members of the Najaba and Ka'abna tribes east of Yatta in the Hebron district. The Jerusalem Municipality also demolished a Palestinian home built without a permit in the Kafar Wajale section of the capital. *Itim*

### Two remanded in arms theft case

Alexander Portanov, 31, of Granot Galil, and Dimitri Gosarov, 25, of Ma'alot, both allegedly involved in stealing weapons from the IDF and selling them, had their remands extended by six days by Haifa Magistrate's Court.

A third suspect, soldier Valentin Borodet, 20, of Ma'alot, was transferred to the custody of the Military Police. *Itim*

### Kahalani OKs surveillance plan in east Jerusalem

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani yesterday approved a plan to boost police capabilities in east Jerusalem that includes installing video cameras and other electronic devices in Arab areas for surveillance. The plan's aim is to "provide security to residents, rapid response to exceptional events, preventing attacks, and catching assailants," according to a statement by the ministry. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

### Samples show Iraq had warheads with nerve gas

Warhead fragments recovered by UN weapons inspectors indicate that Iraq put deadly VX nerve gas into missile warheads before the Gulf War. The *Washington Post* reported in yesterday's editions. The information is included in a confidential US Army laboratory analysis completed on June 10 of warhead fragments taken from a pit at Taji, Iraq, in March, the *Post* said. It obtained a copy of the report from the Iraqi National Congress, the principal Iraqi exile group, and confirmed the findings with diplomatic sources. *AP*

### Rights group: PA police beat women

Palestinian policemen beat Palestinian women asking for aid because their sons are in Israeli jails, a Palestinian human rights group said yesterday. The Palestinian Police denied the accusation. The Palestinian Center for Human Rights released an affidavit from Shahira Abu Naja, mother of prisoner Haidham Abu Naja, who said her right arm was broken when a policeman hit her with a rifle on June 15 in front of the Finance Ministry in Gaza. The group said policemen attacked another woman, who fainted. "When she came round, she found herself on the upper floor of the ministry, where another policeman attacked her using his hands and his feet," it said. *Steve Rodan*

### Autopsy: Girl molested in 'strange' manner

Sabrina Barud, 5, of Kafar Makr, was sexually molested in a "strange" manner and then strangled on Sunday according to the autopsy report. Her mother found her body in a sack in their building's bomb shelter. Two 14-year-old boys have been remanded for seven days in the case. *Itim*

# Yassin expected back in Gaza today

By STEVE RODAN  
and MOHAMMED NAJIB

Hamas leader Sheikh Ahmed Yassin is expected to arrive in Gaza today, crossing from Egypt at Rafah. As of last night, Israeli officials insisted they had not issued him permission to enter, but said they would not try to block his reentry.

"The general approach is that he is less dangerous when he is inside the territories," Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai told reporters.

In response to Yassin's pending return, the Palestinian Authority has asked Israel to permit the entry of PLO political department chairman Farouk Kaddoumi and Fatah Central

Committee member Mohammed Ghaneim.

Ghaneim will be allowed to enter PA areas in an arrangement approved by the IDF, a government official said last night.

Kaddoumi is regarded as the highest-ranking PLO opponent of the Oslo Accords and Palestinians and Israelis have lobbied for more than a year for him to enter PA areas. Kaddoumi supporters in Israel say he is the only one with enough clout to replace the aging and ill Yasser Arafat.

Shlomo Dror, spokesman for the Defense Ministry's Office of the Government Coordinator for the Territories, said the PA request arrived last week and Ghaneim would be allowed to

enter in the next few days.

"It's not a matter of weeks, but of a few days, and the arrangements will be quickly completed," Dror said.

"I don't think there is a reason that prevents us from allowing him entrance," Dror said. Ghaneim "hasn't any security problems, and doesn't oppose the peace process."

Regarding Kaddoumi, Dror said Israel will issue a response "very soon." He said the IDF will check his file and submit a recommendation.

Kaddoumi was given permission to enter Gaza in 1995 for the session of the Palestinian National Council to amend the Palestinian Covenant, an act which Israel maintains was never

completed. Kaddoumi boycotted the session and his permit to enter PA areas expired six months later.

Palestinian sources said the PA is also trying to obtain permission for the entry of Nayef Hawatmeh, head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. In an interview with the *Al-Ayam* daily yesterday, Dror said the problem is whether Hawatmeh would continue to oppose the Oslo peace accords and encourage terrorism.

"The basic question about Hawatmeh is what is his approach - would he accept living with Israel peacefully, would he accept the political solution, or would he continue to believe in a terrorist solution?" Dror

asked.

In an unrelated development, Palestinian Legislative Council member Musa Abu Sabha of Hebron said his driver, Issa Abu Sabha, was wounded when a firebomb struck his car Monday night as he drove through Hebron on his way to Yatta. Sabha blamed Jewish settlers for the attack but a Palestinian source said Sabha's car, which contained yellow Israeli license plates, might have been mistaken for a Jewish car by Palestinians and stoned.

Sabha called on the Israel Police to investigate the attack and put a stop to what he charged are repeated attacks by Jewish settlers in the Hebron area on Palestinians.

## Shahak, Netanyahu set to mend rift

By ARNOLD O'SULLIVAN

Outgoing Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, after bidding farewell to units he commanded in his 36-year IDF career yesterday, meets today with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu.

This morning's meeting will be the first since Netanyahu cut short Shahak's briefing to the cabinet last week and subsequent accusations by Shahak that the prime minister had distorted the truth.

Relations between the two have not been close and it has been months since the two discussed anything aside the appointment of Shahak's successor, Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz. Sources in the Prime Minister's Office said Netanyahu initiated the meeting and it is hoped the two have a reconciliation.

Shahak, the 15th chief of General Staff, spent yesterday visiting units he served in or commanded since joining the IDF in 1962. His first stop was the military prep school in Haifa. Former classmates and instructors were there, but noticeably absent was classmate Maj.-Gen. Matan Vilnai, who was passed over as Shahak's replacement and has slammed the door on the IDF.

Shahak continued to the 101st Paratrooper Battalion, which he commanded when it was known as the 50th in the early 1970s. He then stopped with Mofaz in Katrin on the Golan Heights,



Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak (left) chats with his designated successor, Maj.-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, on a visit to Katrin yesterday. (Avi Shapira)

where he said good-bye to the 35th Paratrooper Brigade, which he commanded during the 1973 Yom Kippur War.

"Whoever was not in the operations and raids will never understand the real meaning of friend-

ship," Shahak said.

After visiting an armored division in the Jordan Valley, Shahak proceeded to Central Command headquarters, where he met with former staff from the time he headed it in the mid-1980s.

Sitting in a circle, the general and the former officers exchanged stories and inside jokes. Shahak is to hand over command to Mofaz on July 9. Until then, he will continue to take leave of IDF units.

## David Levy, Netanyahu talks continue

By MICHAEL YUDELMAN

MK David Levy may be heading back to the Foreign Ministry. Intensive secret talks about Levy's rejoining the cabinet have been taking place between Levy and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, via mediators, over the past few weeks.

Channel 1 said last night one of the mediators is Haifa businessman Alon Dankner, the sponsor of Hapoel Beit She'an, who met with Levy on Saturday night in the latter's Beit She'an home and on Monday night in a Jerusalem fish restaurant.

Netanyahu has sent Levy several messages in recent months encouraging him to return to the cabinet.

This is seen as an effort to bolster his coalition by four or five MKs and reduce the right wing's threat to topple his government. Among those Netanyahu asked to help persuade Levy was President Ezer Weizman.

Levy is said to be interested in regaining his status as foreign minister and being part of the peace process, but has made it clear he would not return unless the second pullback is implemented and the government fulfills its commitments to his Gush Party. These are the issues reportedly being negotiated.

But yesterday Levy still maintained that "the circumstances of my quitting have not changed, and we have nothing to look for in the government."

## Israeli Arab leaders distribute list of settler products to be boycotted

By DAVID RUDGE

Israeli Arab leaders have distributed leaflets in Arab towns and villages, calling on residents and shopkeepers to boycott products manufactured or grown by Jewish settlers in the "occupied territories."

The leaflets include a list of around 80 items produced in the West Bank, Gush Katif and in the Golan Heights.

The list of products range from wines, fruits, vegetables and other foods to building materials

and furniture.

The brochures urge that all residents carefully check items before making purchases, to ensure they are not buying anything that appears on the black list.

Shopkeepers and retailers, meanwhile, are instructed not to purchase any supplies that originate from Jewish farms or farmers in the territories.

"We are not calling it a black list," said Abed Ibtawi, a spokesman for the monitoring committee, which decided on the step three weeks ago.

"It is a list of products of Israeli settlements in the occupied territories which we have distributed throughout all Arab towns and villages along with our call for a boycott."

The committee is comprised of Arab MKs, council heads and public figures.

The boycott was decided upon, he said, because committee members felt that "every shekel that goes to the settlements harms peace and only strengthens those opposed to the peace process."

## Man loses 80% of sight in freak sun accident

By JUDY SEGEL

A man from a Haifa suburb lost 80 percent of his sight on Shabbat after falling asleep on the beach with his eyes partially open and lying on the back in the sun for three hours.

The man, 22, was confused when he woke up and couldn't see well, but he thought it would pass.

When there was no improvement, he went to a clinic on Sunday.

The ophthalmologists found severe ultraviolet-ray burns on his retina's center of vision.

Although he had perfect vision before Shabbat, he can now read only large letters and from very close up and see only six meters away.

When the swelling goes down, his sight may improve a bit, the Kupat Holim Clalit northern district spokeswoman said.

She added that while the danger is higher if the eyes are partially open, a person in a high-risk group - such as those with light-colored irises or those who take drugs that dilate the pupils - could suffer irreversible burns inside the eye even if his lids are closed.

## CONVERSION

Continued from Page 1

Meanwhile, Finance Minister Yitzhak Neeman made an impassioned plea to all sides in the dispute to find a consensual solution to the problem.

"The Neeman agreement is the very foundation for ongoing consensus among the Jewish people," he told the committee. "We must regard this subject as critical for the survival of the Jewish people. I hope that all sides can free themselves of their passions and return to that point when they adopted the recommendations by consent rather than by law. Turning the recommendations into law can only be a last resort."

Some of the participants in the meeting, including Rabbi Uri

Regev, the head of the Reform Movement's Religious Action Center, and MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah Judaism), pointed out that none of the seven members of the committee had signed the recommendations.

The Reform and Conservative members of the committee declined to sign after the Chief Rabbinate refused to meet with them or accept the recommendation for an institute of Jewish studies.

Earlier in the day, at a Jewish Agency gathering, Neeman said that if the Chief Rabbinate refuses to convert candidates who studied at the institute, "there will be other authorized rabbis who will convert them. I believe in the free market system and in this area, too, the free market will have its say."

In response, Deputy Religious

Affairs Minister Aryeh Gamliel (Shas) called on Neeman to resign from the Neeman Committee.

"By making such a statement, Neeman placed himself in charge of the Chief Rabbinate and the Ministry of Religious Affairs," he said. "Neeman, who heads a neutral committee, took a personal and biased stand and therefore disqualified himself from being a member."

## SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE WEEKLY MEETING of the English-speaking Jerusalem Rotary Club will take place today at 1:00 p.m. at the YMCA, King David Street. If Joe Cohen will speak on "A Small T2K Milestone Syndrome."

Teva Pharmaceutical Industries Limited  
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השקט בארץ

## Arab League to hold urgent meeting on Jerusalem expansion

By Jerusalem Post Staff and news agencies

The Arab League said yesterday it would hold an urgent meeting to discuss Israel's decision to extend Jerusalem's municipal authority over eight Jewish settlements on the West Bank.

The meeting, to be held tomorrow in Cairo, was called by the Palestinians and Sudan, which currently holds the presidency of the league, a statement by the 22-nation group said.

The plan for the capital would also extend Jerusalem's boundaries westward, annexing several suburbs in order to expand the city's economic base and help ease its Jewish majority.

UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan expressed regret that Israel had "taken this unilateral action which infringes upon numerous General Assembly and Security Council resolutions regarding the status of Jerusalem."

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami said that "the decision of the Zionist regime, along with its already established policy of occu-

pation and flagrant violation of international law and resolutions of the UN Security Council, is a clear sign of the regime's total disregard for the least demands of the world community."

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Tang Guoqiang said the plan would complicate peace efforts in the Middle East and hoped Israel "will stop doing anything that might aggravate the situation."

He said the plan went against "positive efforts" made by other parties involved in the region to promote the peace process.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed the criticism as "exaggerated."

While dedicating a new trading floor at the Ramat Gan Diamond Exchange, he said that strengthening Jerusalem "is our right, and there is nothing that goes against those [Oslo] accords. We were surprised at attempts to portray this as if we have added territory to Jerusalem. All the international grumbling is exaggerated. Maybe over there it is part of a plan to divide Jerusalem. But here it won't happen."

## Tent protest starts against redeployment

By MARGOT DUKENTICH

Under the slogan "Netanyahu, don't cross the red line!" some 37 families from the settlements Ma'aleh Levona, Alon Moreh and Har Bracha moved into tents opposite the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem last night.

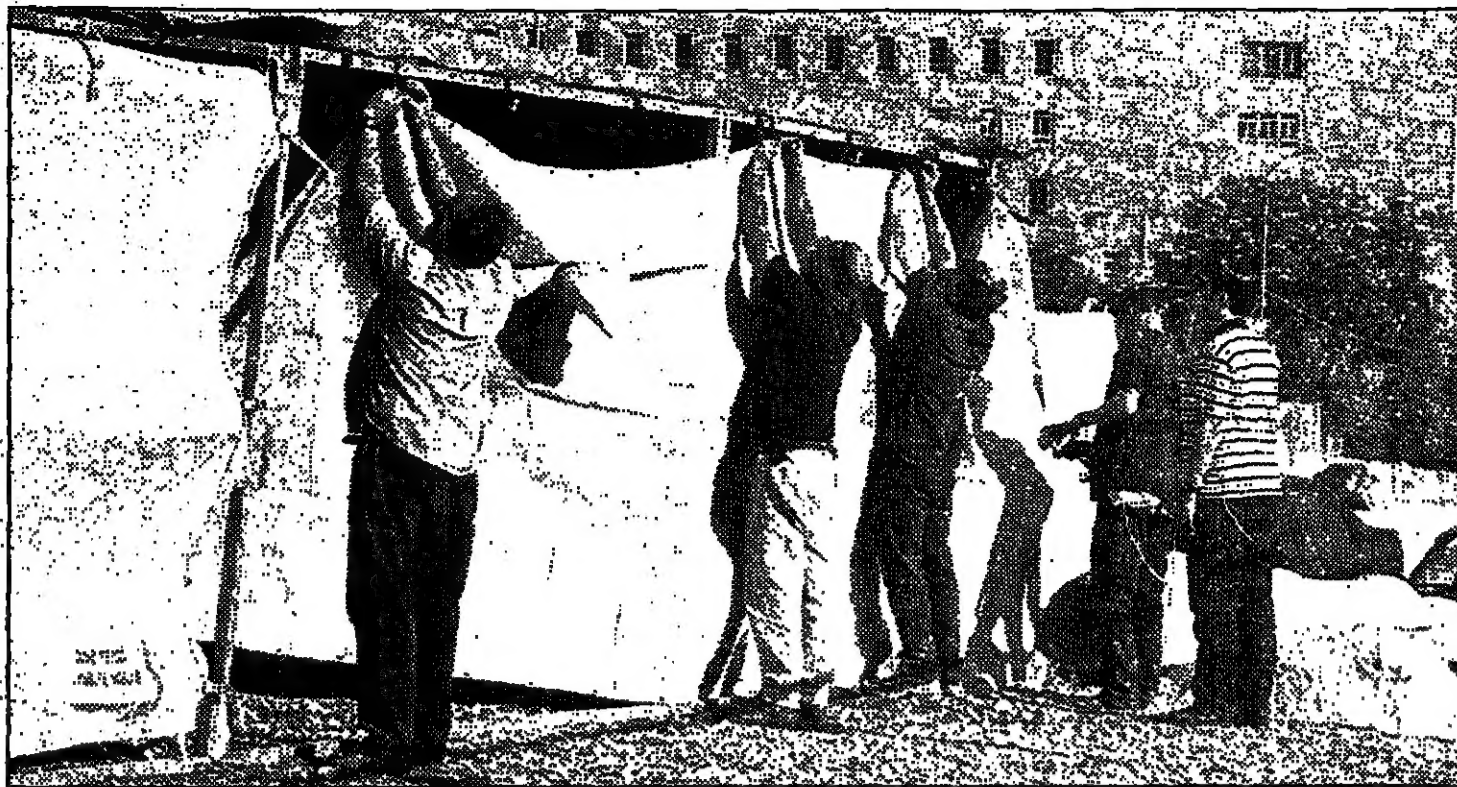
The erection of the tents marked the start of what is planned as an intensive campaign by the Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza to protest against the mooted further redeployment by the IDF.

Preparations for the tent city began on Sunday as settlers used bulldozers to level the ground, but their plans to start erecting the tents yesterday morning were foiled when they discovered they had not received all the necessary permits.

"Because we are planning a long stay we had to apply for permission from the Lands Authority who are the owners of the site and also from the Jerusalem Municipality," said Council spokeswoman Yehudit Tayar. "After we received their agreement, we had to wait for the police to authorize our stay," she said.

Each family will remain a week and others will be sent from the different communities to take their place, she said.

At the same time, settlers will hold protests gatherings outside the Prime Minister's Office and ministers' residences "to remind



Settlers set up part of their tent city yesterday opposite the Prime Minister's Office to protest against IDF redeployment. A spokeswoman said they are ready to stay for a long while. (Brian Hendler)

them of their commitment to guarantee security."

"We will ask them how they can contemplate going ahead with fur-

ther withdrawal with a clear conscience," she said.

Toilets, generators, water and food were brought to the site yesterday.

It resembled a summer camp, as children ran around, while their parents set up aluminium frames.

This evening, Larry Lev of

Ma'aleh Levona will celebrate his son bar mitzvah in the tent city. He has ordered catering for some 100 guests.

## RUSSIAN PRESS REVIEW

By YOSSEF BEGUN

### Non-profit scandal

The major Russian-language newspapers headlined a recent meeting of the Knesset State Control Committee at which Yuli Nudelman, a harsh critic of the Yisrael Ba'Aliya leadership, accused the Absorption Ministry of creating many non-profit organizations through which "vast amounts of money were passed."

According to Nudelman, "several people [Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein, Industry and Trade Minister Natan Shtronsky, Bank of Israel Gov. Jacob Frenkel] are in charge of these groups and their finances... Many of the groups have the same accountant, Bezalel Shif, treasurer of Yisrael Ba'Aliya."

Edelstein walked out of the meeting in protest against the invitation to Nudelman, who recently wrote an article in which he called Edelstein "a KGB agent who is going to baptize new immigrants."

Vladimir Kondratyev wrote in *Vesti* that it turned into "a great scandal and proceeded in the style of *Politika*."

The editorial in *Novosti Nedeli* said that Sofia Landver (Labor), who is the head of a Russian immigrant association, accused Edelstein of giving financial support "only to groups affiliated with Yisrael Ba'Aliya." She brought representatives from some groups that, she said, "did not receive any

support from the Absorption Ministry because they are far from Yisrael Ba'Aliya."

Edelstein denied the accusation of favoritism, but admitted that there are "some defects in the ministry's activities."

According to *Vesri*, Edelstein may see Nudelman and Nisha Strana, for the article published about him.

### Double-standard justice

Dov Kontorov wrote in *Vesti* that the conviction of Margalit Har-Sheti for failing to prevent the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin might be justifiable "despite the inconclusive evidence" in view of "the extreme nature of the crime." But he compared her case with that of General Security Service agent Avishai Raviv who, the GSS and police ascertained, possessed the same information: Amir had told him about his intentions.

Raviv also "rushed to the phone after the shooting to say, 'It was definitely Yigal,'" noted Kontorov.

There was a "double standard of justice" in convicting "a 20-year-old girl who didn't want to betray her boyfriend" while, at the same time, exonerating "an experienced GSS agent whose duty it was to inform his superiors about everything he knew regarding Amir," said Kontorov.

### INFLATION

Continued from Page 1

Netanyahu denied the current year has been "lost" economically, pointing to the latest economic indicators, which suggest a possible reverse of the slowdown.

He said he will ask for US aid as a result of the second redeployment.

"Not guarantees, but I'll demand extensive security infrastructure, bypass roads and tunnels, and of course we'll ask for external help with this."

Responding to figures from the Bank of Israel, which suggest a considerable reduction in foreign investment this year, Netanyahu said it is still too early to tell how the year will pan out, noting that the government has still to receive the receipts on major tenders issued earlier in the year.

### F-15I

Continued from Page 1

Libya does not yet have any missiles capable of reaching Israel, but is trying to build or purchase some. It has even announced it is developing the Fatah medium-range ballistic missile specifically for the purpose of hitting Israel.

The F-15I is able to haul 11 tons of missiles and bombs. Its twin F100 Pratt & Whitney engines are each capable of putting out 29,100 pounds of thrust for a Mach 2.5 speed. The warplane has been named Ram, Hebrew for thunder.

"I hope we won't need to prove them in a war," Amos said. "All of us who believe in peace understand that peace cannot be maintained and perhaps not even be reached if the state of Israel doesn't maintain a strong strategic military force which can support it."

### SALIM

Continued from Page 1

"The implication is that the excavation is going to be very very long process, it will take many, many months," said Dr. Gideon Avni, Jerusalem District archaeologist.

Avni said the work in the last two weeks has only been preparatory work for next week's preliminary stage, which will last two to three months in three locations, after which the Antiquities

Authority will make an assessment on further work.

"This section of Jerusalem was never properly studied - no archeological excavation was ever done in the Moslem Quarter," he said.

The first stage of excavation is being financed by Ateret Cohanim, but the authority has responsibility for whole area.

"They might provide workers for excavation, but this is the process we are doing with every developer, who has the right to provide his own workers to save on the costs," Avni said.



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# Spaniard gives himself up after hijacking domestic flight

**Demanded to fly to Tel Aviv with 131 people on board**

VALENCIA (AP) — A Spaniard who hijacked a domestic Iberia Air Lines flight with 131 people aboard and demanded to be flown to Tel Aviv surrendered peacefully to police after speaking to his psychiatrist, authorities said.

The hijacker, identified as Javier Gomez, said he had "short-circuited," police chief Juan Cotino told reporters after a four-hour stand-off.

After he surrendered, police discovered Gomez was unarmed when he forced the flight between Seville and Barcelona to land in Valencia at 8:40 a.m., Interior

Ministry spokesman Juan Delgado said.

Gomez was brandishing a remote control device and threatening to explode a bomb, the national news agency EFE said.

Once Gomez had identified himself to police surrounding the aircraft, it was discovered he was under psychiatric treatment. His doctor persuaded him to give up in a cellular phone call from Seville.

Several of the hostages, including Seville Mayor Soledad Becerril and city councilor Jose Antonio Aguirre, were able to talk to police and family using their

cellular phones during the hijack. Becerril and Aguirre were on their way to a meeting in Lausanne, Switzerland, to promote Seville's candidacy to hold the 2008 Olympics.

Before giving himself up, Gomez had released 18 people, most of them children.

The remaining passengers and the crew left the plane immediately after he surrendered.

Israel's Ambassador to Spain Ehud Gol said Gomez' first demand was to fly to Athens, but then changed his demand to Tel Aviv. He said Israel had asked Spanish

authorities not to permit the plane to take off.

The last Iberia Air Lines plane to be hijacked was in 1996, when a Lebanese held an aircraft with 236 people aboard in Miami after forcing a diversion from its Madrid to Havana route.

Two years before that three Algerians gave themselves up to police after holding an Algerian airliner with 35 people aboard for eight hours.

The bomb they claimed could blow up the aircraft turned out to be a box containing a coffee grinder.

# Technion satellite launch delayed for 24 hours

By DAVID RUDGE

A last minute set-back has delayed the launch of the Technion's multi-million dollar Gurwin II TechSat micro-satellite aboard a Russian Zenith rocket from the Baikonur Space Center in Kazakhstan. The launch was put off for 24 hours because of a technical problem with the rocket.

The hold-up gave rise to jitters among students and scientists involved in the project, following the failure of the first launch attempt, using a converted Russian SS-25 missile, three years ago.

The Technion issued a statement saying that if there are no other problems, the launch would go

ahead today.

The rocket is also scheduled to put five other satellites into orbit.

The successful launch and operation of the tiny cube-shaped satellite would mark the culmination of seven years of work on the project at a cost of \$8 million.

One of the problems, however, is that only two days were set aside for the launch, yesterday and today, and if for any reason it cannot go ahead today, the launch window will be missed.

"Our people over there said they had been led to believe by the Russians that everything is being done to ensure the launch will be successful," said Technion spokesman Amir Zmora. "They are not prepared to take any

chances, even on the smallest matter, and while there's still time they want to make absolutely sure that everything will be perfect. If there is a further delay, however, the launch will be deferred to a date to be fixed."

Zmora said there was a lot of tension and excitement among students, scientists, and experts from high-tech companies who have worked on the project.

"The main feeling is one of hope. If the launch and operation of the satellite are successful, it can bring about a major step forward in high-tech industry dealing with space, micro-computers, new communications systems, and of course research in many fields," he added.

# Diplomats slam treatment of foreign workers here

By LIAT COLLINS

Several ambassadors used undiplomatic terms such as "exploitation" and "abuse" to describe the treatment their citizens receive as workers here.

The ambassadors who attended the Knesset Committee for Foreign Workers yesterday repre-

sent African, South American, East European, and Far Eastern countries.

Ghana's Ambassador Kodjo Wadec said that Israel should limit the number of Western foreigners working in hi-tech industries, which harms the local employment situation, rather than dealing with the Africans working as

domestics and in other jobs Israelis do not want.

"Let me ask you as Israelis, would some of you be willing to allow Palestinians to come into your bedrooms to clean?" he asked.

He said Israel is burying its head in the sand. He said his government had sent a protest to Israel concerning streets arrests and the treatment of its nationals, and that reports are slowly filtering into the Ghanaian press and creating a negative feeling toward Israel.

Nigerian Ambassador Ignatius Lisemeka said his country is not proud of the fact that its nationals come to Israel to clean floors and homes and agreed that Israel should act to reduce the number of illegal workers.

He added, however, that he would expect a Jewish state whose people had suffered from anti-Semitism to be more sensitive and to treat foreign workers as human beings.

Romanian Ambassador Gheorghe Popescu suggested that embassies be allowed to hold their nationals' passports to solve the problem of employers illegally withholding passports to stop the workers from leaving.

Chairman Ophir Pines (Labor) raised a bill under which illegal workers would receive a one-year legal work permit on the basis of a guarantee they would leave at the end of the period. He also called for the illegal workers awaiting deportation to be held in special centers with more suitable conditions, rather than in prison.

He agreed that there is an amount of exploitation, which should be ended, but also said the number of illegal workers should be reduced by humane means.



**A taste of honey**

A beekeeper from Yad Mordechai yesterday treats children at Herzliya's Lynn Nursery School to a taste of fresh honey, along with best wishes for a sweet summer vacation. Beekeepers from the kibbutz brought a similar treat to several nursery schools in the center of the country.

# UJA head warns of rift over conversion bill

By LIAT COLLINS

The conversion bill will cause a deep rift between the Jewish people in Israel and the Diaspora, UJA chairwoman Carol Solomon told the Knesset Immigration and Absorption Committee yesterday.

During the session, on the chal-

lenges and future of Israel-Diaspora relations, Solomon called on the government to show understanding and tolerance of Jewish lifestyles outside of Israel.

She suggested that the ties could be strengthened by reciprocal visits and having more grants for foreign students study here.

Committee chairwoman Naomi Blumenthal (Likud) said the conversion bill does not have a majority in the Knesset.

She said the discussion around it could be used as a springboard to strengthen the relations with the Diaspora and become more involved with Jewish life there.

Naomi Chazan (Meretz) agreed

the bill is doomed to failure. She said the only solution is to separate state and religion.

Alex Lubotzky (Third Way) noted that although the conversion bill had raised an emotionally storm among Diaspora Jews, interest in Israel concerns mainly its political aspects and whether it will cause a coalition crisis.

# Rabbinate: Halacha forbids women soldiers

An argument broke out in the Knesset Committee for the Status of Women yesterday during a discussion on military service for religious women.

Committee chairwoman Yael Dayan (Labor) praised the programs which allow religious women to do military service without harming their beliefs or practice. The argument broke out after Chief Rabbinate representative Menachem Janovsky said military service for women violates a halachic ruling by the Chief Rabbinate.

OC Education Corps Brig.-Gen. Ran Galinka presented a model of military service combined with social or educational service. The program's two choices are longer than regular military service for women, but both include basic training and voluntary work in a group framework. Fifty young women are currently serving in this framework. The committee also heard of a program initiated by the IDF combining Nabal service with a year or more of religious studies.

The committee heard that some 2,000 religious women are serving in the IDF and some 6,000 in national service (Sherut Leumi), in which there is an increasing trend of serving a second year.

# KNESSET BRIEFS

By LIAT COLLINS

## Public boards must have women

The Knesset this week passed final reading of a law under which all public companies whose board members are all men would appoint a female member on the public's behalf.

The bill was submitted by MK Haim Oron (Meretz). He said there are currently 700 public companies operating in Israel, half of which have no women on their boards.

## Sex, lies, telephones

This was the topic which dominated the Knesset Economics Committee yesterday, when it discussed a request by the Communications Ministry that 057 numbers be available only to those people who ask for it. The 057 numbers are used mainly by phone sex agencies and other companies which offer phone conversations at a high rate. Currently, those not interested in the services can ask

## Prisoner reciprocity bill

The Knesset this week passed the first reading of a reciprocity bill under which the government would not release Palestinian prisoners unless the Palestinian Authority hands over the 33 wanted terrorists Israel is demanding.

The bill was submitted by MK Michael Kleiner (Geshet) and had government support. It passed 10 to eight.

# Angered by PM, US Reform rabbis discuss conversion bill

By TOM TUGEND

ANAHEIM, Calif. - Reform rabbis meeting here for their annual convention will today discuss an "emergency resolution" on the conversion bill pending in the Knesset, which is strongly opposed by the Reform movement.

The "emergency" was apparently triggered by remarks on June 13 by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, who implied that if Israel recognized Reform converts as Jews, it would open the door to mass conversions of foreign workers, or "quickie" conversions.

The question we have here is how do we prevent fax conversions?" Netanyahu said on June 13 to Reform leaders visiting Israel.

The remarks have angered the gathering of 600 rabbis, the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

As part of the deliberations, rabbis who met with Netanyahu are due to report on their visit to Israel.

Rabbi Richard Kroloff of Westfield, New Jersey, CCAR's president-designate, termed Netanyahu's statement "an outrage and insult to our integrity" and vowed that "we will not be pushed around

any more."

The answer to every such attack "is to build another Reform synagogue and ordain another Reform rabbi in Israel," said Kroloff.

Kroloff has also urged that a portion of all funds raised in the United States on behalf of Israel go directly toward strengthening the Reform movement in Israel.

Meanwhile, a call by CCAR President Richard Levy on Monday, arguing that Reform rabbis reach out to their Orthodox colleagues, was met with skepticism in a follow-up discussion group.

More than one speaker noted that it was almost impossible to bring an Orthodox rabbi to the table if women or openly gay Reform rabbis were present, and attempts at outreach or unity often ended in humiliation.

The CCAR also weighed the highly controversial issue of whether Reform rabbis should officiate at marriages of gay or lesbian couples.

The audience heard opposing recommendations and discussed the issue in closed sessions, but by prior arrangement avoided a decision by not putting the question to a vote.

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## Panel rebuffs A-G on Deri's immunity

By LIAT COLLINS

The Knesset House Committee yesterday rejected Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein's request that it immediately vote on lifting the parliamentary immunity of Shas leader Aryeh Deri so he can face charges of breach of trust in what has been nicknamed the "public trial."

The committee voted instead to accept a proposal by Michael Kleiner (Gesher) to wait until three months after the conclusion of his ongoing "private trial" for misuse of funds for personal use.

The "public case" concerns allegations that he used his position as Interior Ministry director-general and later as minister to channel funds to Shas-affiliated non-profit groups.

The vote of 8-4 with three abstentions crossed party lines, uniting MKs from Moledet, Hadash, Labor, Likud, United Torah Judaism, and Shas. Those who supported Rubinstein were: Haim Oron (Meretz), Shevah Weiss (Labor), Meir Sheerit (Likud), and Haggai Merom (Labor).

Uzi Landau (Likud), Shlomo Benizri (Shas), and Haim Ramon (Labor) had written to Rubinstein asking him to drop the case.

Although Landau is not a committee member, he said he wrote the letter because "it cannot appear that the Attorney-General's Office has a stock of charges and



MK Aryeh Deri (left) consults with his attorney, Yigal Arnon, during yesterday's House Committee session. (Isaac Harari)

is prepared to present them one after another. It gives the impression that [Deri] is being picked on. Deri will pay a heavy price no matter what the result of the current case, which has already dragged on for years. Enough is enough."

"If the present case ends with an acquittal,

no one in the world will want to file a public indictment against Deri," his lawyer, Yigal Arnon, told the committee. "If it ends with a conviction, there will be no reason to file an additional charge."

Rubinstein left the committee clearly upset by the decision, which he said could

affect the statute of limitations on the case and the Knesset's image, presenting it as a closed group.

"Naturally I am sorry," Rubinstein said. "I will respect it because it is a parliamentary decision, but it is not worthy of those who took it."

Sheerit, who chaired the committee for the immunity hearings, said the decision would most likely be challenged in the High Court, but rejected the possibility it was based on political considerations.

Speaker Dan Tichon also said such claims are unfounded.

Benizri said the decision was not meant as a slap in the face, but it was a pity Rubinstein had not "answered the simple request" to drop the charges in the first place.

Oron said the procedure on lifting an MK's immunity should be taken out of the Knesset's hands and put in those of an outside public body. Yona Yahav (Labor) later submitted a bill to that effect.

Following the decision, Eliezer Zandberg (Tzomet) filed a bill under which the statute of limitations would be frozen for the period between the submission of the request for immunity to be lifted to the committee and the committee's final decision.

Zandberg said the bill would operate on a similar principle to the one under which the statute of limitations is frozen during the period of a police inquiry.



Pupils at the Hadassah Neurim school paint one of the murals that helped them win the Jubilee Association's 'Decorating for the Jubilee' competition. (Dan Ossendryk/Israel Sun)

## Prizewinning jubilee decorations announced

By HELEN KAYE

The Hadassah Neurim boarding high school near Netanya is one of three schools, two private homes, and three apartment buildings countrywide to have won cash prizes in the Jubilee Association's "Decorating for the Jubilee" competition.

The prizes, NIS 20,000 (1st), NIS 15,000 (2nd), and NIS 10,000 to each of the eight prize winners will be awarded in a ceremony at Hadassah Neurim tonight.

Hadassah Neurim won first prize for the central region. The

other first prize went to the Alonim elementary school in Pardes Hanna for the North, and the Etzion Gever elementary school in Eilat took second place—no first was awarded—for the South.

"We're celebrating a double jubilee," said Neurim principal Eli Ben-David. The school was first established in a former British army base during the War of Independence, when David Ben-Gurion ordered the evacuation of children under 15 from Ben Shimon, then under siege. Under the circumstances,

depicting the history of the state was a natural choice, he said, adding that during the last two weeks of the competition, all those involved—teachers, students, even the school's technical and maintenance personnel—worked furiously to get it all ready. At the other schools the pace and levels of cooperation were similar and, being day schools, the parents got involved as well.

At Etzion Gever, the school facade was turned into a giant ship depicting the arrival of illegal immigrants. The Alonim school,

which also has five special education classes, "gift-wrapped" its facade with meters of blue-and-white bunting tied up with colorful "ribbons" in the form of motifs. But Hadassah Neurim illustrated almost every available inch of its wall space with huge murals showing events and personalities in the country's history.

The Jubilee Association received thousands of pictures, said competition coordinator Moshe Harel, which were winnowed down to 100 finalists. Including honorable mentions, there are 31 prizewinners.

## Swiss reject compensation demand by Jew handed over to Nazis

BERNE (Reuters) — The Swiss government yesterday rejected a demand for compensation from a Jewish refugee who was caught in Switzerland in 1943, handed over to Nazi Germany and denounced as a Jew as the Holocaust raged.

The cabinet released a letter it had sent to Joseph Spring's lawyer saying it deeply regretted the incident but insisting that the *Auschwitz survivor's demand* for 100,000 Swiss francs (\$66,800) was not legally valid.

Spring, 71, said he was disappointed that Berne had not found it appropriate to compensate him for "betrayal" by Swiss guards. His lawyer said he would appeal the case to Switzerland's supreme court.

Spring, now an Australian citizen, was born in Berlin of Polish parents, but moved with his mother to Brussels in 1939.

As a 16-year-old, he and two cousins tried to sneak across the French-Swiss border to safety in Switzerland, he said.

Their first attempt failed when a Swiss farmer found them and led them to a customs post. They ran into a Swiss army patrol a few nights later when they crossed the frontier again and tried to follow a railway track into the interior.

Border guards then handed the trio over to German authorities and informed them that the relatives, who were carrying false French passports, were actually refugee Jews. The three were sent to Auschwitz, where his cousins were gassed.

## NEWS

in brief

### Immigrants support draft for yeshiva students

Immigrants from the former Soviet Union yesterday threw their support behind the bill requiring the drafting of yeshiva students.

At a press conference organized by Alex Tenser, deputy chairman of "One People, One Draft," and an activist in the political party Yisrael Ba'aliya, representatives of Russian immigrant welfare organizations called for more egalitarian treatment in all aspects of Israeli society, including army service.

Referring to Shas leaders, Tenser said: "It is unfair that people who did not serve in the Israel Defense Forces are deciding the fate, the Jewishness and the right to citizenship of those who are serving in the army."

Allison Kaplan Sommer

### Ministry to invest funds for Lake Kinneret sites

Tourism Minister Moshe Katsav announced yesterday that NIS 73 million will be invested in improving and expanding facilities around Lake Kinneret in preparation for an expected influx of Christian pilgrims in the year 2000. Katsav made the announcement during a visit to the Jordan Valley where he met with regional council head Ze'ev Shor.

The money will be spent on upgrading roads, infrastructure and facilities at Christian holy sites, including Kfar Nahum (Capernaum) and the Yardenit baptismal center and increasing accommodation.

David Rudge

### No recommendation for school safety bars

There is no recommendation at this point from the Education Ministry to local authorities to place bars in classroom windows, despite the tragedy in Jerusalem in which a pupil fell out the window. This, because of fears the classrooms would become traps in the event of fire or other emergencies. At a gathering of school security officers in Tiberias yesterday, a senior security officer said the matter would be rechecked, but stressed that "whoever remembers the Ma'alot tragedy of 25 years ago knows that if there were bars in the windows, no pupil would have emerged alive from the terrorists. Those who survived, jumped out the window."

Itim

### More Arutz 7 staffers questioned

Police questioned seven staffers of the Arutz 7 pirate radio station yesterday, including current events director Haggai Segal. Segal called his being summoned for questioning "scandalous," saying that "most MKs and politicians" have been interviewed on the station and that this proves its "legality." Most of the staffers questioned yesterday maintained their right to silence; others are to be questioned today.

Itim

## US plans to deport Nazi-backed unit veteran

WASHINGTON (Reuters) —

The US Justice Department said on Monday it would seek the quick deportation of Kazy Ciurinkas, 80, who served in a Nazi-backed unit that murdered thousands of Jews and others during World War II.

Ciurinkas, of Hammond, Indiana, was found to have joined the Nazi-sponsored 2nd Lithuanian Schutzmannschaft Battalion that killed civilians, mainly Jews, in German-occupied Byelorussia and Lithuania.

Last week, a federal court of appeals in Chicago unanimously affirmed a decision to denaturalize Ciurinkas, who emigrated to the US from Germany in 1949 and became a citizen in 1955.

The court affirmed that Ciurinkas should not have been given an entry visa because he voluntarily served in an organization under German command and,

among other things, misrepresented his personal history when applying for a visa.

Eli Rosenbaum, head of the Justice Department's Nazi-hunting Office of Special Investigations, said he would seek to have Ciurinkas deported as expeditiously as possible.

The 2nd Battalion in which Ciurinkas served functioned primarily as a "mobile killing unit," the Justice Department said in a statement. It did not specify to which country he would be deported.

The Office of Special Investigations was created in 1979 to investigate and take legal action against "Axis perpetrators" living illegally in the US.

To date, 59 participants in Nazi-sponsored persecution have been stripped of US citizenship and 47 of them have been deported, the department said. Nearly 300 people remain under investigation.

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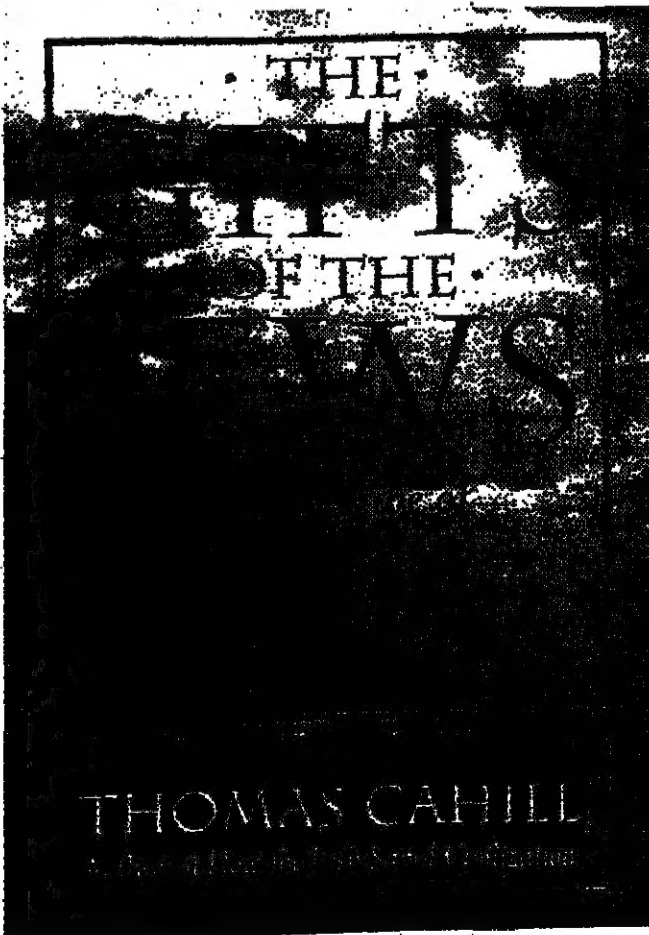
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The Jerusalem Post Wednesday, June 24, 1998

INTERNATIONAL

7

# US to give Belgrade ultimatum on Kosovo troops

By MIRCELA CASULE

**SKOPJE (Reuters)** — Washington strongly supports Macedonia's territorial integrity, now under threat from fighting in neighboring Serbia's province of Kosovo, US envoy Richard Holbrooke said here yesterday. He held separate meetings earlier with Macedonian President Kiro Gligorov and Kosovo Albanian separatist leader Ibrahim Rugova. Holbrooke left later for Belgrade with an ultimatum to Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic to withdraw his special police units

from Kosovo and open talks with Rugova's team of negotiators, who are also demanding independence.

"We have to prevent the events in Kosovo from escalating into a general war," Holbrooke told reporters. "That goal will not be easy to achieve. We are pleased that Macedonia is not part of this problem and we strongly support its territorial integrity."

The US and its European allies fear that independence for Kosovo could provoke similar demands from ethnic Albanians in Macedonia, where they inhabit territory along the Kosovo border.

Serbian police are fighting guerrillas of the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA), who seek independence despite Western insistence that they must settle for autonomy within the Yugoslav federation.

NATO has threatened Milosevic with military intervention if he does not comply.

The Western alliance is close to launching military force against Milosevic's security forces, but Russia is urging patience and a chance for diplomacy to work.

Milosevic met Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Nikolai Afanasievski before Holbrooke's arrival.

A NATO official said the alliance should be able to intervene in Serbia's southern Kosovo province within days, but is anxious not to be drawn into a full-scale war.

In Moscow, a Foreign Ministry spokesman, echoing remarks by Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov, said Russian envoys are still trying to resolve the crisis and the Contact Group on former Yugoslavia should not rush into a meeting today.

Primakov made clear on Sunday Russia is upset with the West's pool response to the Moscow talks in which Milosevic agreed to some

demands for ending the crisis, but refused to send Serbian forces back to barracks immediately.

"[The Serbs] cannot withdraw their forces because that will be followed by an exodus of Serb refugees," Primakov told RTR state television. "There are 150,000 Serbs in Kosovo and they would take such withdrawal as a definite signal to flee."

The NATO official said air strikes — but not the deployment of ground troops — are among options under consideration.

Alliance planners are finalizing contingency plans ranging from preventive deployments on

Kosovo's borders to direct intervention should the crisis worsen. "We are not interested in bombing all of Yugoslavia. We want to de-escalate the conflict," the official, in Vienna for a NATO workshop on security challenges, told reporters.

The State Department said Holbrooke, nominated last week as US ambassador to the UN, "will be making clear in a very strong message to President Milosevic that the Contact Group's demands are not a menu from which you can choose."

The Contact Group — Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Russia,

and the US — called in London this month for the Yugoslav leader to withdraw from Kosovo "security units used for civilian repression."

It also demanded unimpeded access to Kosovo for international monitors and humanitarian organizations, the right of refugees to return to their homes, and rapid progress in a dialogue with the Kosovo Albanian leadership.

Rugova has refused to talk to Milosevic because of the continuing Serbian military crackdown on supposed bastions of the KLA, which has forced tens of thousands of civilians to flee towns and villages coming under heavy gunfire.



## Book deal

Independent counsel Kenneth Starr arrives at US District Court in Washington yesterday. Monica Lewinsky's lawyers are giving Whitewater prosecutors records of her book purchases, in the midst of negotiations on a possible immunity deal for the former White House intern.

## Yeltsin: Financial crisis calls for radical measures

By TIMOTHY HERITAGE

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** — President Boris Yeltsin said yesterday that Russia's financial crisis had reached alarming proportions and demanded radical measures to avert a growing danger of social and political problems.

He told the opposition-dominated State Duma, the lower house of parliament, it must quickly adopt Prime Minister Sergei Kiriyenko's anti-crisis plans or face unspecified "other measures" — a scarcely veiled threat to dissolve the chamber.

"The economic crisis has become so acute that there are social and political dangers," Yeltsin said at the start of a rare joint meeting of the government and parliament on the financial problems.

Yeltsin, speaking sitting down in a packed hall in the government's White House headquarters, said Russia had lost momentum in implementing market reforms.

Kiriyenko spoke after Yeltsin and was outlining a program to end the financial crisis and restore investors' confidence in the bat-

tered economy.

The program could hold the key to the young prime minister's hopes of political survival.

Kiriyenko, who is 35 and took office in April, faces a crisis which was partly brought on by financial problems in Asia but was also provoked by internal problems such as a cash crunch and low tax collection, which have contributed to wage arrears.

He is promising austerity measures which will not be popular but will be designed to shield Russia's poor as the country tackles a crisis which has buffered the ruble, sent interest rates up and caused turmoil on financial markets.

Most of the moves outlined in the program are expected to need the approval of the Duma which could cause delays and cause new political confrontations. Yeltsin has threatened in the past to exercise his right to dissolve the Duma and call a new election if it blocks important economic moves.

Gennady Seleznyov, the Duma's communist speaker, said before the meeting that he thought a devaluation of the ruble was like-

ly soon and that it could bring down the government.

"If there is a sharp devaluation, then either the president or the Duma will dismiss the government," Interfax news agency quoted Seleznyov as saying.

The government has repeatedly ruled out a devaluation, a measure which would immediately ensure ordinary Russians felt the pain of a financial crisis that many fail so far to understand.

In a reminder of the problems the government faces, unpaid miners, energy and other workers briefly blocked a railway and road in the Pacific port city of Vladivostok yesterday. Workers from a nuclear submarine-building plant set up a tent city near the local administration's offices to press wage demands.

They carried red banners declaring "Government — stop living off our money" and "Yeltsin — quit!" Yeltsin and Kiriyenko are anxious to prevent the crisis touching off serious social unrest and creating more political stability which would undermine them and their reform plans.

## Seoul: North Korea sub violated truce

By YOO CHUN-SIK

**SEOUL (Reuters)** — South Korea said yesterday that a North Korean submarine violated its waters, violating the armistice that ended their fratricidal war in 1953.

"It was confirmed the submarine was North Korean and we believe it's a clear violation of the armistice agreement," said Colonel Park In-yong of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The incident was expected to be discussed at a previously scheduled meeting between military officials from North Korea and the United Nations Command (UNC).

A spokesman at the UNC office in Seoul said the meeting began at 10:30 a.m. in the truce village of Panmunjom.

Park told reporters the submarine, spotted after it surfaced on Monday afternoon entangled in fishing nets, was being towed to a navy port in the coastal city of Donghae, some 300 km east of Seoul.

The submarine was stranded some miles from where a North

Korean submarine ran aground in Kangnung in September 1996, leading to the deaths of 24 of its 25 crew in an incident that sent ripples through north-south relations.

Park said it was not certain if anybody was inside the submarine. Crew aboard a passing fishing boat said on Monday they had spotted a couple of people on its deck.

South Korean President Kim Dae-jung told Defence Minister Cheon Yong-tack and the government to "react calmly" to the incident, according to a presidential spokesman.

"The president asked the minister to find out whether anyone was on board the submarine and to determine North Korea's reaction," the presidential spokesman said.

"The president said he would come out with an overall assessment following the general officers meeting scheduled for today in Panmunjom," the presidential spokesman said.

The meeting between military officials from North Korea and the

UNC, including South Korea and the United States, was the first in nearly eight years.

North Korea declared an end to the regular meetings after a South Korean general was appointed to head the Military Armistice Commission, which discusses truce violations.

North Korea proposed yesterday's meeting earlier this month, saying it wanted a new mechanism to replace the commission.

The presidential spokesman said Kim had instructed his representatives to raise the issue at the talks.

Also yesterday morning, South Korea's richest man, Chung Ju-yung, walked across the border through Panmunjom.

Chung, the founder of the giant Hyundai Group, was returning from a week-long visit to the North after donating 500 head of cattle. It was the first time the North had allowed anybody permission to cross the world's most heavily militarized frontier.

A South Korean defence ministry spokesman said earlier no one tried to board the submarine

while it was being towed.

"For the sake of extra security our forces did not open the hatch of the submarine while escorting it to shore," a defence ministry spokesman said. "Therefore we do not know if the submarine contains any passengers," he said.

The submarine was discovered partially submerged about 17 km from the northeastern town of Seokcho. Colonel Park told reporters on Monday.

He said the vessel was identified as a "Yugo class" submarine, capable of carrying seven people and mostly used for espionage by North Korea.

The United States said the incident underscored the tensions on the Korean peninsula.

State Department spokesman James Rubin said the incident was "a reminder of why it is so important to engage with China in discussions on matters of regional security." The truce in 1953 ended a three-year war between South and North Korea but the two sides of the peninsula have remained technically at war since then.

## Khatami to Revolutionary Guards: Time for 'gentler Islam'

By JONATHAN LYONS

**TEHERAN (Reuters)** — Iranian President Mohammad Khatami has issued a call for a kinder, gentler Islamic system with room for a range of political and social views, Iran's state radio said yesterday.

In an address to the Revolutionary Guards, and volunteer forces, Khatami commemorated the death of the Prophet Mohammed with an appeal for greater tolerance and understanding, particularly towards the young.

"The youth should be treated kindly and not with intimidation so that they could be attracted to Islam," the radio quoted Khatami as saying at Teheran's Hosseiniyeh Sarallah mosque. Iran marks the day as a public holiday, with the radio broadcasting mourning music.

Khatami also called for better relations with the outside world. The president, who wears the black turban of a descendant of the

prophet, stressed the need to respect different political tendencies and to tolerate different opinions within Iranian society, the radio said.

His remarks were delivered before those revolutionary forces most associated with strict enforcement of Iran's social and political codes of conduct. Young people are often the target of their periodic enforcement campaigns.

The appeal followed a political setback for the moderate president on Sunday, when conservatives in parliament forced the resignation of his reformist interior minister, Abdollah Nouri.

Deputies charged Nouri with aggravating tensions within society and failing to rein in the first stirrings of political and social opposition.

The president immediately hit back by appointing Nouri vice-president for development and social affairs, a job that restores him to a seat in the cabinet and

largely preserves his considerable influence within the government.

Khatami won a landslide election victory in May 1997 on a platform of social and political liberalization — captured in his slogan for a "civil society" within the Islamic system — and of easing tensions in Iran's foreign policy.

But conservatives — who still dominate key levers of power including the armed forces, parliament, the judiciary and the broadcast media — have hindered Khatami's reform efforts.

Likewise, the Revolutionary Guards and volunteer militias remain outside of Khatami's control, reporting directly to Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

On Monday, US State Department spokesman James Rubin congratulated Iran on its 2-1 victory over the American team in a World Cup match in France and wished the Iranians the best of luck in the rest of the tournament.

## Cold War habits die hard

### ANALYSIS

**SEOUL (Reuters)** — South Korea's capture of a North Korean spy sub in its territorial waters is a reminder that the Cold War lives on in the Korean peninsula, which remains one of the world's flash-points.

South Korea's Defence Ministry called the mini-sub's intrusion a "provocation."

But the last thing North Korea wanted was for one of its spy subs to get tangled up in fishing nets and towed to the South Korean coast, analysts said yesterday.

The incident was especially embarrassing, coming a day before a meeting between military officials from North Korea and the United Nations Command that Pyongyang had been trying to set up for a long time.

North Korea's official media said one of its mini-subs had become "wrecked" at sea because of faulty instruments during a training mission in the East Sea near the South Korean border.

"This was not a provocation," said one veteran North Korean watcher in Seoul. "Certainly, North Korea did not want this sub to be discovered, just as they didn't want that sub to be found in 1996. It's just business as usual."

The North Korean mini-sub captured on Monday was found not far from where a North Korean submarine ran aground in September 1996, touching off a massive 53-day manhunt. Twenty-four of the 25 men aboard that sub were killed.

South Korea lists 21 incidents since 1968 in which North Korean agents were either shot dead by South Korean forces or committed suicide to avoid capture.

"The assumption here is that this sort of thing goes on all the time,"

said Peter Bartholomew, managing director of Industrial Research and Consulting Ltd. and a Korean resident for the past 25 years. "The problem is, the South Korean Navy has insufficient resources for detection. You have the occasional firefight with an armed North Korean fishing boat or the discovery of a sub."

While the two Koreas have been taking tentative steps to improve ties since the inauguration of South Korean President Kim Dae-jung in February, they still share the most militarized border on the planet.

North Korea, now in the seventh year of economic depression and trying to cope with widespread food shortages, is desperate and on edge, diplomats say.

Pyeongyang said earlier this month that US economic sanctions had forced it to export missiles abroad to raise funds, and it would continue to develop, test, and deploy the missiles.

This was the first official admission by the North that it is involved in such a trade. North Korea missiles can reach much of East Asia, defense experts say.

President Kim, who for years was branded by South Korea's former military rulers as soft on communism during his decades in opposition, has pushed for more social, cultural, and business contacts between the two Koreas. His "sunshine policy" is meant to gradually bring the two neighbors closer while delaying peaceful reunification until well into the

next century.

On his recent visit to the US, he urged Washington to ease sanctions on North Korea.

The secretive communist state in the North has responded in its typically enigmatic manner and lies have progressed in fits and starts.

It welcomed a visit over the past week by South Korea's richest man, Hyundai Group founder Chung Ju-yung, who yesterday walked back to South Korea through the UN truce village of Panmunjom. Pyongyang would have found it hard to refuse Chung's no-strings offer of \$600,000 in aid, including 500 head of cattle and a plan to invest in a tourist resort.

And for the first time in nearly eight years, military officials from North Korea and the United Nations Command — which includes South Korea and the US — met in Panmunjom yesterday. That was a meeting North Korea has been trying to set up for years to talk about replacing the Military Armistice Commission, which discusses truce violations.

Pyeongyang declared the commission "non-functional" in 1991 after a South Korean general was appointed its head.

In April, the two Koreas held their first bilateral meeting in five years to talk about food and fertilizer aid for the North's shattered rural economy. It broke down when the North refused to discuss Seoul's proposal for family reunions across the border.

Diplomats say the two Koreas will continue their sometimes stumbling efforts at rapprochement — despite the occasional sub or infiltrating team from the North.

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# Australians question the value of immigration

By MICHAEL PERRY

SYDNEY — The Woolloomooloo finger wharf jutting out into Sydney Harbour has stood neglected for decades, its windows smashed, its timber walls peeling and splintered. Fifty years ago it pulsed with life, as thousands of migrants streamed through it into the brilliant Australian sunshine, full of dreams and apprehensions.

Today, it stands a derelict reminder of Australia's past embrace of a high-immigration policy which extolled the slogan of "Populate or Perish" and reflects Australia's current immigration policy which sees fewer and fewer migrants arriving.

It seems Australians no longer trust immigration, no longer see it as linked to the national interest, according to various studies and political, social and academic commentators.

A phenomenon born of this mistrust has been the rise of populist politician Pauline Hanson and her One Nation party, which has claimed that Asian migrants are swamping Australia.

The party is just over a year old, but won nearly a quarter of the vote in the Queensland state poll in its electoral debut early in June.

A recent opinion poll showed primary vote support for Hanson's party at an all-time high of 14.5 percent, with the conservative Liberal National coalition government dropping to 35 percent and Labor steady at 39.5 percent.

Prime Minister John Howard, while rejecting Hanson's anti-Asian remarks, has said her words are "an accurate reflection of what people feel". Opinion polls show support for immigration has been sliding since the 1970s.

"It reflects economic insecurity and a lack of any clear sense of what the migrant intake is for and a worry that it leads to a lack of a sense of being a common people," says sociologist Katherine Betts at Swinburne University, Melbourne.

Australia is one of the world's great immigration stories. Its first white settlers, many of them convicts banished from their homeland of Britain in 1788, sailed virtually from the ends of the Earth to establish a new nation.

Since World War Two a total of 5.6 million people have migrated to Australia, helping the population more than double to 18.3 million.

As a result, Australia boasts one of the world's most successful multicultural societies, with people from almost 200 countries, and no ethnic ghettos or inter-racial violence that has plagued other mass-migration nations like the United States.

In the immigration boom years of the 1950s and 1960s Australians saw migrants, mostly British and European, as essential for prosperity, fuelling economic growth.

Opinion polls in the 1960s showed about 40 percent of Australians believed migrant numbers were too low.

In contrast opinion polls today

show some 65 percent of Australians believe immigration is too high.

"Widespread mistrust and failing consensus threaten community support for immigration," warned a comprehensive 1988 immigration report by Stephen Fitzgerald, now chairman of the Asia-Australia Institute. "The program is not identified in the public interest and must be given a convincing rationale."

Fitzgerald's report was also critical of multiculturalism, saying it was "seen by many as social engineering which actually invites injustice, inequality and divisiveness".

Ten years on, the same feelings are widespread, say analysts.

Sociologist Betts says the first signs of waning support for immigration emerged in the 1970s with the end of the White Australia Policy, which required migrants to pass an English dictation test, and the rise of Asian migrants.

"The increasing racial diversity of the intake certainly made immigration more obvious from the late 1970s," says Betts.

Asian migrants may be more visible, but they make up just 4.8 percent of the current population. If current levels continue, they will account for only 7.5 percent by 2031.

But coupled with the decline of Australia's labour-intensive manufacturing industry, and a growing debate on overpopulation and the environment, Australians now question immigration.

Betts says some anti-immigration sentiment has racist undertones, but attributes most of it to economic issues.

Of those who believe immigration is too high, 74 percent cite unemployment as the reason.

As a consequence of this public perception, and stubbornly high unemployment, migrant numbers have dropped from 107,400 in 1991/92 to 80,000 in 1996/97.

Since its election in March 1996, Howard's conservative government has set out to remodel immigration, while reducing migrant intake.

Australia's immigration policy now focuses more on a migrant's skills, qualifications and English, rather than family, and has raised the hurdle or "pass mark" for entry.

"The government is committed to delivering a balanced migration programme with a proper emphasis on migrants with the necessary skills and capital to help the Australian economy grow," says Immigration Minister Philip Ruddock.

A recent government survey of skilled migrants showed they had invested A\$300 million (US\$183 million) in Australia in the past three years, says Ruddock, citing the merits of the policy.

Under Australia's current immigration policy, its population should reach 23 million in the next 25 to 35 years.

Yet many argue this is too small if Australia is to maintain its economic clout. Others argue a falling birth rate and rising death rate will see the population fall from 2025

without more migrants.

Fitzgerald's 1988 report suggested an intake of 150,000 to 220,000 migrants a year, and population of 26 to 30 million by 2031. Former prime minister Malcolm Fraser argues for a population of 45 to 50 million.

"On current policies we appear to be a selfish, narrow, affluent nation. It is time we recaptured the zeal, the enthusiasm for developing Australia which was embraced by all political parties... in the immediate post-war years," says Fraser. "Unless we can recapture that we will be rudderless, without influence, with a most uncertain future." (Reuters)

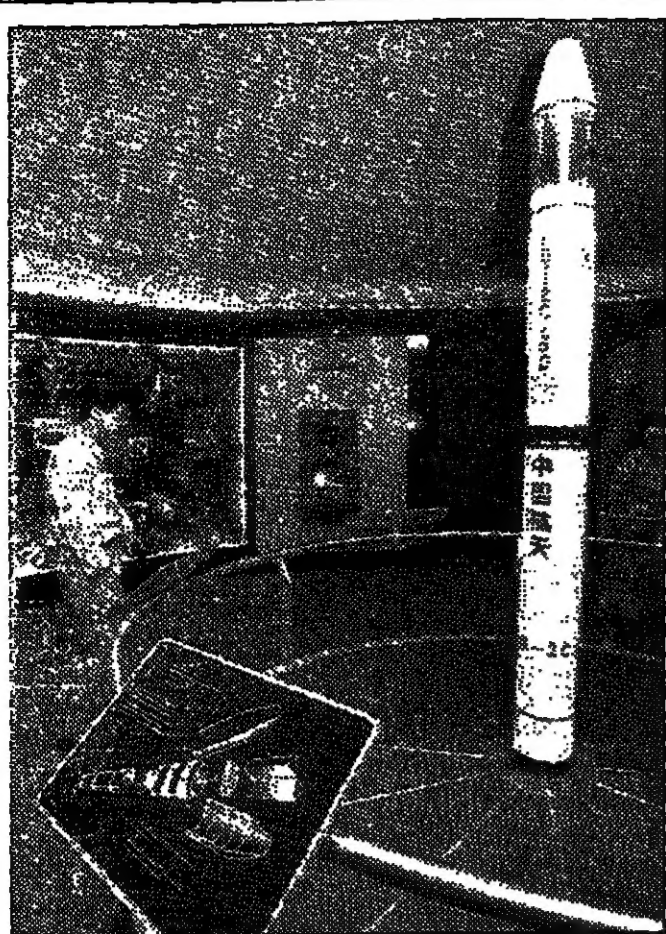
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# Bat mitzva for army orchestra

By MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

The army orchestra hardly anyone knows about celebrates its 12th anniversary this year.

The IDF Education and Youth Corps Chamber Orchestra was formed as a joint venture by Isaac Stern and Brig. Gen. Nehemia Dagan, the head of the IDF Education Corps, to allow excellent young musicians to hone their craft during their military service.

Young musicians audition for the title of Distinguished Musician, in many ways comparable to Distinguished Sportsman, and are chosen annually for the two-track program.

One track is for soloists, who continue to pursue their musical studies independently throughout their military service. The other track drafts musicians into the orchestra, where they practice and perform for the duration of their military stint.

All the orchestra's musicians are soldiers, in either mandatory or reserve service and the ensemble has no budget. Instrument repairs and replacements are paid for by the America-Israel Cultural Foundation.

The orchestra's first concert was conducted by the late Shalom Rooy Riklis, who cared greatly about Israel's youth and the musicians of the future. Mendi Rodan was the orchestra's first music director. He was replaced after a few years by Menahem Nebenhaus, who remains music director today.

Nebenhaus says that the orchestra has two separate jobs. "We are the official orchestra for army and state events like Remembrance Day for the Fallen of Israel's Wars and Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Day and for Knesset events that require classical music and not the marching band style of the IDF Orchestra."

"More than that, we play a lot for the soldiers themselves. We present a sort of a musical appreciation program for the young soldiers whether in full orchestra or with chamber ensembles."

An average soldier spends no longer than two to three years in the orchestra.



The IDF's Youth Orchestra keeps these musicians playing for two to three years.

Bpt Nebenhaus says that "although the musicians change, as do the commanders of the education corps, on the whole the

orchestra has established for itself a sort of a continuity and identity through the devoted work of the musicians and those who

work with them."

Nebenhaus says that the orchestra not only tries to help its young musicians hone their craft in clas-

sical music but tries to make them aware of contemporary Israeli music as well.

Nebenhaus says that "we provide them with as much musical care as we can and we have always made a point of commissioning and performing contemporary Israeli music."

"In this way, these young musicians will eventually realize, before entering the classical music market, that there is fine music being written in Israel and they will champion it and enjoy performing it."

One such Israeli work, Oded Zehavi's *Yehoraz*, can be heard on the orchestra's premiere CD which was recently produced by Libi Classics, a fund-raising vehicle for Libi abroad. It is a fine recording that shows these young musicians at their enthusiastic best.

Nebenhaus runs the orchestra with the help of administrator Dani Yaron, composer Oded Zehavi, the America Israel Cultural Foundation and Beni Galed, the director of the Jerusalem Music Center (JMC).

The orchestra has seen some of its finest musicians go on to extraordinary careers at home and abroad, for example, Sharon Kam, Chen Halevi, Eyal Ein Habar, Guy Braunstein, Zvi Plesser and others.

Being a military organization, the orchestra does not perform in public either in Israel or abroad. And so, apart from special occasions, the public cannot hear these young and upcoming musicians on the threshold of a national and or even international career.

But to mark its 12th anniversary, the orchestra gave a special concert earlier this month at Tel Aviv Museum and will perform again this Friday at noon at the JMC to close the Youth at the Center concert series.

Friday's concert, that will include pieces by Mozart, Mendelssohn and Menahem Wiesenberg, will be broadcast live on the Voice of Music radio network. The concert is an opportunity to hear an ensemble that usually works behind closed doors but explodes with *joie de vivre* when it does what it does best - play classical music.



Tami Ankori as both bagwoman and pixy at the festival. (An Basel)

## The street's their stage

By HELEN KAYE

Chills, thrills and spills is what the barkers used to cry when the circus came to town. It fits this year's Street Theater Festival in Bat Yam on July 1 and 2 where 22 different programs run the gamut from a high-wire act, to fancy juggling, pyrotechnics and a walking fountain, not to mention giant octopi, beetles, angels, pixies, lizards and other assorted flora and fauna.

"This year we've dared to be more creative, more visually and conceptually daring," says festival director Jacky Bechar, who adds that there are six festival-engineered productions this year. They include *Tamuz*, *Hands*, *The Giant Lizard Circus* and *Bag 2000*.

*Tamuz* is a buffo fantasy on the subject of man, machine and creation, with lots of special effects from the Arma Theater of Ein Hod. *Idit Herman* and *Grigori Tulpanov* of Klipa, those wizards of poetic junk, are the creators of *Hands*, big hands that want to grab it all.

The *Giant Lizard Circus* from Fanny and Moshe Hanuch, is fun with a couple of huge 'lizards,' or 'inzards,' or whatever else you'd like to call a cross between a lizard and an insect, with live rock from Kuzar. *Bag 2000* is an acrobatic and clown show about what happens when a caterpillar meets the modern world.

Other local attractions include Tami Ankori's *Rags and Pixy* and three winners in the street theater category from the Haifa Children's and Theater Festival that took place on Pessah.

The first-prize winner was Moshe Malca's madcap Zitzland quartet with *ByeZits* in which four

characters sit in four transparent cells. Two others won certificates of merit: *The Bed*, in which clown Adrian Schwartzstein proclaims that "all the world's a bed...," and *Sea World* in which fish and an octopus tangle with a shark.

Imports include *Sarruga* from Spain, a group that specializes in spectaculars. This one, called *Eppur si muove*, features five-meter-high spiders and dragons as well as suitable light and sound effects. *Avanti Display* from the UK brings *The Spurring Man* about a veddy proper English chappie who's a fountain, actually, old boy!

Lee Hayes is a superb clowning juggler from the US; the still-walking *Franches* from France provides *Mephistomania* and a family of new immigrants from the Caucasus make their Israeli debut with a daring high-wire act.

Make no mistake. The best street theater is fun. Not just because it's free, but because of the interaction between performers and audience. Performers have to be quick on their feet and even quicker with their tongues and/or bodies.

"Nobody quite knew how to take us when we started three years ago," says Bechar, whose idea it was in the first place. "Now audiences are a lot less shy than they were."

The festival, with a budget of some NIS 1 million, takes place over an H-shaped area in the much-cleaned-up Bat Yam industrial zone, whose hub is the intersection of Nissenbaum and Yosef streets. Each of the shows plays at least twice, but not all of them play both days. Some performances start at 6:30 p.m. and the last show begins at 10:45 p.m.

## Arad Festival '98 forgets Arad '95

By HELEN KAYE

They're all there: The royal couple of pop - Rita and Rami Kleinstein - and one of Israeli song's truly greats, Shlomo Artzi. The equally great Shalom Hanoch will be there with Ariel Zilber, the first time the two have performed together on stage since the Seventies. And Yehonatan and Aviv Gefen will appear in a father/son act they've wickiedly dubbed *Zemer Gefen*, Hebrew for cotton wool.

Other headliners to appear at the July 14-16 Arad Hebrew Song Festival include Ahinoam Nini, rocker Bary Saharoff and Zvuvim, as well as a strong Mediterranean song contingent made up of stars like Margalit Tzanani, Avihu Medina, Eli Luzon, Shlomi Shabat, Eviatar and Eyal Bani and the creamy-voiced Boaz Sharabi.

Also singing at the festival are the jazz duo of Iris and Ofer Portugal, part of a star-studded

salute to Yaffa Yarkoni, this year's Israel Prize winner for her contribution to Hebrew song.

"Every event will celebrate the jubilee in its own way to emphasize the Hebrew character of the Arad festival," said artistic director Dani Robas.

Altogether, the festival will feature some 800 performers in some 100 shows, a good half of them free.

Artzi will open the festival with an acoustic concert at the 5,000-seat theater at the archeological site of Tel-Arad (biblical Arad), the festival's newest venue. Other concerts will be performed at Arad's 9,000-seat stadium, the pool, Masada (where events are timed to coincide with sunrise - and is that ever spectacular!), the Oran cinema and various community centers around town.

Artzi has also consented to head the newly established Arad Foundation which aims to raise money for Hebrew music scholarships for talented youngsters.

In fact, there'll be a non-stop three-day marathon of junior rockers from around the country in an event called *Hama afiya* (the bakery).

And as announced, the Jubilee Association has partially funded, as part of the Arad Festival, free concerts in nine Negev towns, including Netivot, Ofakim, Dimona and Sderot. The concerts will be held between August 4 and 29.

Security will be provided by some 1,500 security personnel, including police officers and a private security firm. Magen David Adom will also be on hand.

As in the previous two years, Bezeq will provide phones so that youngsters will be able to call home during the festival. Organizers expect some 80 - 100,000 people "about 65 percent of what it was in former years," said producer Eli Levi.

The security arrangements, the extra phones and the expected number of festival-goers were

oblique references to the 1995 Arad Festival when three teenagers were crushed to death in a stampede to get into the Mashina concert.

It was the only reference the organizers made. Last year the bereaved parents sought and failed to stop the festival with a court order.

But this year everything at the festival is back to normal. The stars are back. The town will roar. Time moves on, and people forget. Only the kids stay dead, and their parents heartsick.

Last summer, after two years of foot-dragging, the state finally charged seven people with negligent manslaughter in the Arad deaths: former Negev district police chief Yosef Avni, the police officer in charge at the festival, Shlomo Abutbul, Festival Association director Avinoam Werbner, festival coordinator Moshe Glantz, festival producer Roi Schwartz and ticket seller Yossi Bender who

allegedly oversold the event.

Micki Peled's 17-year-old son Eitan was one of the three youngsters who died in 1995 and Peled has been actively campaigning for justice ever since. He complains the court has held only two procedural meetings since the indictments were handed down. The actual trial will start September 7.

But legislative wheels are turning, albeit slowly. A broad interministerial committee set up following the Arad disaster has recommended that a special amendment be added to the business licensing law that would clarify the grey areas on licensing, accountability, and regulations governing mass events.

A senior source in the interministerial committee said that passage of the law was imminent, but that "the [Maccabiah] bridge disaster gave us further pause and we've tried to tie up some more loose ends. We want this to be an enforceable law, not just words on paper."

## Manhattan mourns Linda Love at first note in Romeo et Juliette

Friends and family of the late Linda McCartney, ranging from Twiggy to Neil Young gathered to pay tribute on Monday to the wife of former Beatle Paul McCartney at a private memorial service at a Manhattan church.

The service for Linda McCartney, who died in April from breast cancer at the age of 56, was not open to the public or press, but an order of ceremony and a transcript of Paul McCartney's speech were released. "It's a very sad time for all of us, but she would not want us to be sad, but to count our blessings as there are so many of them," McCartney said.

"I was so lucky to be the one she chose. I want to thank New York. Linda was born here and she was a true New Yorker. She was a friend, a beautiful friend to so many people."

"You know I love her and you all love her too, that's why we're all here tonight. I love you Linda," McCartney said.

After a welcome by Rev. Fanny Erickson and an address by photographer Ralph Gibson, the Loma Mar Quartet performed a series of songs Paul McCartney wrote for his wife, including "The Lovely Linda," "Maybe I'm Amazed" and "My Love."

A highlight was the leading of a lone appaloosa horse down the aisle of the Riverside Church as a tribute to Linda McCartney's love of animals. An animal rights activist, she



McCartney at the tribute. (AP)

bought a line of successful vegetarian food.

Outside the church, a sombre mood prevailed as celebrities including television journalist Diane Sawyer, her husband film director Mike Nichols, designer Ralph Lauren, pop star Paul Simon and Harper's Bazaar editor Liz Tilberis, herself a cancer survivor, arrived.

A few hundred fans gathered behind police barricades, holding signs that read "Go veggie for Linda" and "Your spirit lives on." Some lit candles as dusk fell and the service began.

When Paul McCartney arrived, the fans came to life as many screamed "Paul, we love you!"

harking back for a moment to the horde of shrieking teenage girls who dogged the Beatles invasion in the mid-1960s.

Other speakers at the service included Louise Weed and Laura Malcolm, Linda McCartney's sisters, and family friend Danny Fields, according to the programme.

The Boys Choir of Harlem performed "Blackbird" and "Celebration" and the service ended with the song "Linda," a Jack Lawrence tune written for Linda when she was just a child.

Paul McCartney made a 45 rpm single recording of the song for his wife as a surprise 45th birthday gift.

On June 8, McCartney joined the two other surviving Beatles, George Harrison and Ringo Starr, at a London memorial service, at St. Martin in the Fields. It was the first time the group members had appeared in public together since 1969.

Others attending that service included the McCartneys' three children and a daughter from Linda's first marriage, Elton John and Sting.

The congregation sang "Let it Be," the ballad McCartney wrote for his own mother Mary, who also died of breast cancer, and McCartney told the 700 guests: "I have lost my girl friend and that is very sad. I still cannot believe it."

(Reuters)

### CLASSIC DISCS

Gounod's *Romeo et Juliette* is a touching, vigorously youthful work which brings Shakespeare's star-crossed lovers to the opera stage. It is far from a masterpiece, yet it is better written than the same composer's *Faust*.

The essence of *Romeo et Juliette* are the duets between the two lovers, from the first in which they fall in love, to the last in which they end their lives wrapped in each other's arms. Bar an aria here and there, the rest is less intriguing, and the ballet music, which was compulsory in last century's French Grand Opera tradition, is included here simply because it was part of the original score. A performance of it suggests exactly why this music is more often than not omitted.

The new EMI (5 56123 2) recording of this opera arrives on three (due to the ballet music), instead of the usual two discs.

The disc has been long-awaited due to the portrayal of the lovers

by husband and wife Roberto Alagna and Angela Gheorghiu, the hottest names in opera these days. Since their marriage, the Italian tenor and Rumanian soprano have become real media darlings. They have become audience favorites as well, in spite of the fact that their occasionally capricious behavior has angered some opera managers. They are the new opera stars of our generation and mostly for good reason. And this particular repertoire suits both to perfection.

This is probably one of the couple's best performances on disc. They sound believable and sincere from the first moment to the last. One senses the lovers' enthusiasm, eagerness and childish naivete which later changes to an acceptance of a horrible fate. Each of their duets is perfectly sung, and one hears not only the music, but also full-blown drama. The rest of the cast is first class and the Toulouse orchestra under Michel Plasson is most engaging.

Above all, however, this recording is Alagna and Gheorghiu. They are bright, they are exciting, they are mesmerizing. In short they are the real thing.

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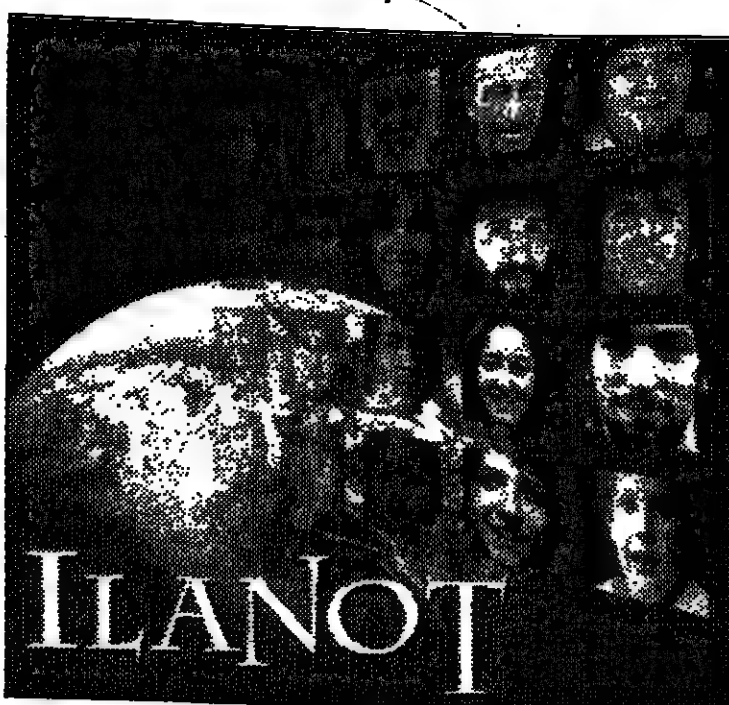
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## Your family tree



By Judy Siegel-Itzkovich

**Ilanot, Software for Jewish Genealogy, three diskettes in English by Beit Hatzfutsot in Tel Aviv, from the Diaspora Museum's Information Systems Project, headed by Menahem Fogel. For all ages, NIS 118 at the museum store, or NIS 139 (plus NIS 10 postage) from The Jerusalem Post Book Department. Rating: ★★★★★**

Jews who are interested in their family tree but too lazy to work at it should not buy this program. But for those who have patience and interest, Ilanot is a bonanza.

The easily installed program comes as a *tabula rasa*; you have to type in — person by person — whatever you know about your relatives, present and past; this information is stored in the database, easily printed out anytime in the form of a family tree.

Start with yourself. Fill in your name, address, nickname, married name and religion, spouse, parents and children; then move on to details of your birth, religious events, life events, education, degrees, military record, occupation and so on.

For deceased relatives, you may enter the day, details and place of death and the location of the cemetery plot. There is room in the program, which is stored on your hard disk, for an endless number of separate family files, individuals in a single family and information on each individual.

You can also scan photos (if you have a scanner), have them sent to you by e-mail, or download them from a diskette and include pictures of relatives in their file. If you have video pictures from a wedding or family celebration, special equipment can be used to download these as well.

How much you can enter depends, of course, on the size of your hard disk and how much memory you want to devote to your family tree.

Entering all the data may take time, but if you're conscientious, it will be a lasting and authoritative record of your family. There are convenient buttons at the top of the screen for adding or deleting a spouse or a child, either because of a change in status or because you've discovered an error. When you see your family tree, you can click on any person listed to get into his or her personal file.

There is a convenient feature that automatically calculates the exact family relationship between two people. There are also speedy searches via name (or part of a name) or identification number. You can also import and export data from GEDCOM files (other genealogical databases) for inclusion in your own family tree.

The only minor fault I found in this excellent piece of software relates to dates. If you put in the civil date, you can find the Hebrew, Moslem and Julian date that corresponds with it.

But the birthday of person born after sundown is the next day in the Hebrew calendar; the program doesn't offer an option of noting if it was after sundown, so the registered Hebrew date (or the English date, if you entered the Hebrew one) would be erroneous.

But the Beit Hatzfutsot program will revolutionize the study of family histories, which has aroused a great deal of interest along with increasing curiosity about the Holocaust.

Street, Beit Shמש 99000, or at computer software stores. For all ages, NIS 150. Rating: ★★★★★

Where have all the Israelis gone? With the country so crowded with people and tarred over with roads, it isn't easy to take hundreds of photos showing hardly any people, litter or traffic.

But these two collections of photographs, apparently created to take advantage of all the supposed interest in Israel on its jubilee, present a pristine, beautiful land without the resource that gives it so much *pitpat*: its people.

While both companies had the same aim, Intelmedia offers a very good product, at a low price, while DavkaGraphics presents an overly expensive, sloppily made disk.

If you want collections of photos of today's Israel (as opposed to its history, which is amply covered in the highly rated photo disk by David Rubinger), choose *Israel: Views and Sites*. It will be useful for school reports, organizational bulletins and such purposes — but use for commercial enterprises, home pages or Web sites, or showing in public, is forbidden without written permission from the company.

Intelmedia's CD-ROM has no video, but there are two types of musical background (choose either or none) as you view these digitized picture postcards. There is a cornucopia of pictures: 675 of them in crisp, clear color, covering the computer's full screen or in thumbnail prints in groups for easy selection.

You can search according to 27 geographical groups of pictures, with 224 photos in the Jerusalem area alone. The undersea photos from the Red Sea were so attractive that one viewer felt tempted to reach out for a fish among the corals.

The photos are meagerly captioned by just a couple of words — a more detailed explanation of the



history or geography would have been welcome for newcomers — and they can be either printed out, saved on disk, used as screen "wallpaper" or sent by e-mail.

DavkaGraphics' program has no musical background. The 199 photos (by Jack Harut) cover only about 2/3 of the screen; they are much less interesting than the Intelmedia disk's, and of poorer quality. Here too, the captions are of only two to five words. There are thumbnail images, 16 to a "page," 13 pages altogether. Unlike the Intelmedia disk, the images can be changed by flipping them over, putting them into grayscale, mirror or negative images.

There are a few interesting photos of Jerusalem — including the Western Wall — in the snow. One amusing shot shows an IDF radio man standing in front of the Wall, leaning on it with one hand and talking over his radio-telephone with the other. It looks as if he's having a serious conversation with God.

But the disk is sloppily done. The photo of the magnificent Supreme Court building in Jerusalem — regarded as one of the most beautiful in the city and even in the whole country — focuses on the steps leading to the court and shows hardly anything of the architecture.

The disk's worst sin is the "misplacing" of more than half-a-dozen captions: Click on Kinneret and you see Kfar Nahum; Mt. Carmel is actually the Kinneret; the Jezreel Valley is presented as a waterfall; Hamat Gader is really Haifa; and the Northern Golan is in fact Gan Hashlosha. That will really confuse the tourists.

Safed is written in one caption as Tzefat, and elsewhere as Zefat. Oddly, there are also official photos of the late Yitzhak Rabin and of Binyamin Netanyahu.

# Guardian angel, or spying parent?

Miniature microphones, transmitters and cameras allow suspicious Japanese to spy on their spouses, competitors, foes, employees, neighbors — and children. It's a parental act of last resort in a society where the old rules no longer apply. **Sonni Efron reports**



A bugging device is slipped into a girl's hair: It's "a horrible form of remote control," in the words of a Tokyo University education professor.

to rescue a child whose life is taking a dangerous turn.

Recently, detectives burst into a department store restroom after hearing a bully dunking her victim's head into a sink full of water. And they persuaded a "love hotel" to turn out a schoolgirl who had just rented a room with a middle-aged man, said Angle head Hirotsuki Kohama.

Three days of full-time kiddie surveillance costs \$1,120.

"It's cheap," Kohama said. Many parents gladly pay more for three months of tuition in cram schools that they hope will help get their children into a good college. "We've done hundreds of cases over the last four years."

WIRETAPPING telephones is illegal in Japan, but it is not illegal to make or sell tapping devices, and those who use them are rarely caught or prosecuted. Moreover, surreptitious listening, recording or filming are all legal, as long as no crime is committed when planting the bugging device.

The argument that children have privacy rights is new, and by no means widely accepted in Japan, legal experts said.

It is impossible to know how widespread bugging has become because few people who discover they have been spied upon complain to the police, and authorities do not keep statistics on the rare wiretapping cases that are reported. Civil lawsuits for invasion of

**Recently detectives burst into a department store restroom after hearing a bully dunking her victim's head into a sink full of water**

privacy are rare.

Constant media interest, the huge selection of wiretaps, hidden cameras and bug-detecting devices displayed on the shelves of certain electronic stores and the number of magazine ads for mail-

order sales of such products suggest a healthy market for electronic spying.

The *Yomiuri* newspaper, Japan's largest, recently dubbed Japan "A Bugging Society."

Tsuguhide Suzuki, a civil liberties attorney who has successfully sued the police over wiretaps, said authorities are forbidden to do, said he believes that bugging is on the rise in Japan as the "information society" makes purloined communications more valuable.

Corporate espionage is considered a fact of life here. Anecdotal evidence also suggests a rise in political bugging.

Recently, a man received a two-year jail term for tapping the phone of the mayor of Mitake in western Japan, and a radical student group was nabbed for tapping a professor who had angered its members.

"In schools, business and politics, and in the relationships between citizens and their government, confidence is quickly eroding," Suzuki lamented. "The old Japanese value of 'Let's trust each other' is crumbling... Instead, it's 'Let's steal information from each

other and use it to get each other.'"

ANGLE'S Kohama blames modern parents for poor child-rearing, permissiveness, lack of interest and an inability to talk to their children.

"These parents are hopeless — they have no communication with their kids, and they can't get a grip on what their kids are up to," he said of his clients.

But he defends bugging as a parental act of last resort in a society where traditional values have eroded and the old rules no longer apply.

"High school students don't need mobile phones, and they don't need Tamagotchi, the electronic 'pet' game that has swept Japan," Kohama said, adding: "Bratty punks don't need privacy." When parents suspect that something is amiss, they are usually right, Kohama said. Fewer than 10 percent of the teen cases that he investigates turn out to be false alarms.

The detective's observations of teen life in the raw would certainly give a parent grounds for paranoia.

The 17-year-old girl whom detectives rescued from immersion in the department store sink, for example, had taken a part-time job in a fast-food restaurant without her parents' knowledge in order to pay \$375 a month in extortion money to her "best friend," Kohama said.

At first, the detectives found no signs that she was being bullied, but then they noticed that the girl's hair was getting shorter and shaggier — the result of tormentors snipping off chunks of it bit by bit.

As for Mrs. F, she said she taped-recorded her daughter's conversations and learned that the girl was being humiliated and ordered about like a servant by several classmates. She was made to buy juice and notebooks for the entire gang, and was once told to go buy Chanel lipsticks, Mrs. F said. She ultimately brought the tape to the girl's teacher, who confronted the bullies and eventually extracted an apology.

Shocked to learn that she had been surreptitiously taped, her daughter eventually forgave her, Mrs. F said. "She said, 'As long as you've told me now, it's all right.'"

The mother said: "She did not want me to know that she was not resisting [the bullies] when she should have been resisting. She didn't want me to see that part of her."

Would she recommend kid-tapping to a friend? Yes — if the parents are prepared for what they hear.

"Your child told you, it would be fine, but if they feel they can't talk to you, the only way to know the truth is to sneak a bug into their things," she said. "If you don't do it, you won't know the real truth."

(The Los Angeles Times)

## The simple act of touch: Massaging preemies



By Ruth Mason

**Y**ou've heard of infant massage. You might even have read about it in this column. But did you know that in some hospitals premature babies

are massaged as part of their treatment program?

A 1986 study by Tiffany Field, PhD, et al. at the University of Miami Medical School showed that tactile and kinesthetic stimulation of healthy preterm infants contributed to greater weight gain, increased motor activity, more alertness and improved performance on later developmental tests.

These infants stayed in the hospital an average of six days less than a control group, yielding a savings of approximately \$3,000 per infant. Researchers suggest that massage is a cost-effective way of facilitating growth and

behavioral organization in even very small preterm infants.

According to Dr. David Franz, a pediatrician and neurologist in Cincinnati, massage can also increase the range of motion of the arms and legs and can minimize spasticity in premature infants.

Franz also says that massage facilitates the bonding process between the preterm infant and her parents, reducing the child's feeling that everything happening to her is noxious.

He warns that massage would not be appropriate for critically ill preemies or for those who are very sensitive to stimulation.

Some experts disagree with the value of massage for preterm infants.

Heidelise Als, PhD, a neuro-behavioral psychologist in Boston, says massage might be too stressful for a premature infant whose brain expects to receive the input that it would be getting from the womb environment.

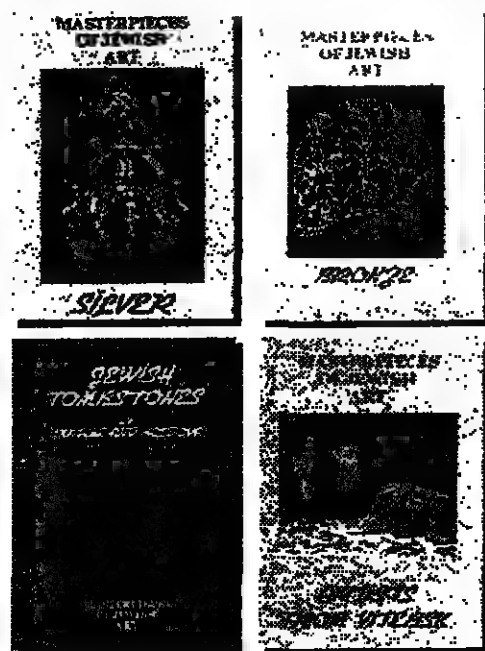
Dr. Field, whose 1986 study explored the benefits of massage, is director of The Touch Research Institute at the University of Miami, the first center in the world for touch research. The Institute maintains that touch has been used to comfort and heal since the beginning of time, but

that in modern times, technology has tended to replace touch in medical settings.

"With the advent of sophisticated medical equipment," the Institute says, "the simple yet vital act of touch is often overlooked."

The Institute's research projects include the use of massage in enhancing immune function in AIDS and cancer patients; the relationship between touch and physical growth and emotional development in infants and children; and the effects of touch therapy on addictive personalities such as cocaine-addicts and people with eating disorders.

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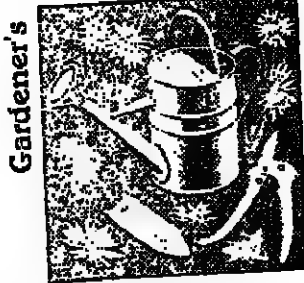
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## Corner



By Batsheva Mink  
and David Brauner

Finally you've got your garden and house plants looking their best, but even the most dedicated gardeners have to go away occasionally, whether for a summer vacation or a visit to family. The hardest time to leave the garden is during the hot summer months, when plants are looking their best.

Summer holidays are much more of a problem than winter ones. In the warm season, plants are actively growing and in need of much more attention, particularly watering.

Some of us are lucky enough to have family or a friendly neighbor to rely on for a spot of watering. Even so, leaving the watering to someone else is matter of concern while we are away. Will he or she remember to water our plants? Or will they over-water or under-water our favorites? Even with the best intentions, not everyone understands the different needs of individual plants.

Worse still, we may not have a friend or relative who lives close by. Or what do we do if our choice of stand-in gardener also happens to be taking their vacation break at the same time as we are? What do gardeners do who have no one to turn to?

Let's start with the house plants, which are easier to care for than outdoor gardens in absence of their owners. If it is impossible to get someone to come in and "plant-sit" your containers, you can always take them around to a friend's place, if you have a manageable number, say, only three or four pot plants.

But if your indoor garden is too extensive to be moved from the house, here are a few suggestions. First, move pots and containers to a light place, but out of the direct sunshine. Group them together on a table, or in one place on the floor. This way your plant minder will not miss any that are normally hidden in corners or difficult-to-reach nooks and crannies. If you find yourself completely alone, give all your plants a good soaking and feeding before you leave. Any house plants in flower, like geraniums, should have all their flowering buds and stems removed. Plants in full flower are heavy on their water requirements.

To provide a little reserve, stand the pots in saucers of shallow water not more than 3cm. deep. Thoroughly mist your plants with

water after giving them water and food. This should keep them in good condition for a week or more depending on the weather and variety of plant.

If you are a plant lover who is a frequent traveler, there are many varieties that have naturally low water requirements, a fact worth bearing in mind when purchasing new plants. One example is the bromeliads, a group of exotic and decorative house plants grown for the beauty of their foliage and sometimes flowers.

Bromeliads usually have a central "vase" or "cup" which holds water for long periods of time. Other plants included in the low water requirement list are the leafy spider plant, Swiss cheese plant (Monstera deliciosa) and peperomia, the African violet and the delicate asparagus ferns, climbers and trailers like the philodendron, kangaroo vine, pothos (scindapsus) and the ivies, and, of course, cacti and succulents. Many of these plants don't mind the occasional drying out. In fact, it is over-watering that will more than likely kill most house plants.

When you return, immediately give your plants a good watering. Mist them over with water, and only when the soil is thoroughly wet, give them a little plant food. Feeding plants when the soil is dry is a recipe for root burn.

Next we turn to patio and balcony plants. Take down hanging baskets and place them in a bucket of water so their bottoms are in 3-6 cm. of water.

Stand containers in trays and saucers of water as we recommended for the indoor plants.

Move all pots and containers out of the direct sunshine into full shade. If you do not have a shady area on your terrace, move the containers and pots into a garage or a cool room. Water containers well, and mulch the surface after you are sure that the potting compost is thoroughly wet. Three centimeters of mulch is more than sufficient to "insulate" your plants roots from drying out.

Last but not least is keeping an outdoor lawn and garden watered in your absence. You may not be able to afford a professional gardener to look after your "patch," or you don't entirely trust your friends and neighbors, or don't like to ask. If you are away only a few days the garden can take care of itself, but anything longer than three days is taking a risk.

Much depends on the weather. If it is anything like the hot spell that we had recently with temperatures rising to 35°, you can come home from a weekend away to find all your garden and patio

plants wilting. Wouldn't it be great if taps could turn themselves on and off automatically so that the garden watered itself?

Turning the dream into reality is as easy as installing a water computer and irrigation system. Watering computers are simple to fit to a standard garden tap, and as easy to program as a central heating system. Such systems control the amount of water (in cubic meters) or timing (by the clock), automatically turning on and off according to pre-set programs. And if your "away time" normally coincides with the rainy season, you can even buy a device which overrides the watering program if it rains during the time you are away. In other words, it automatically shuts itself off.

The cost of such systems depends on their sophistication, the length of piping and drippers needed and installation. However, even when you are not away, irrigation systems soon repay themselves in time saved and efficient conservation of precious water resources.

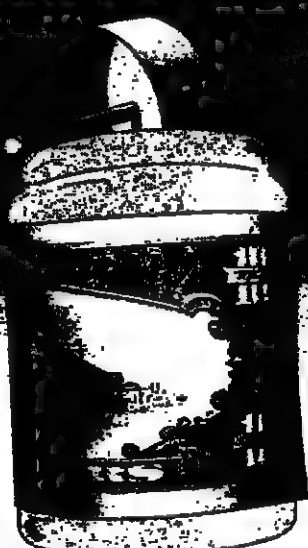
Buy and install the system well before your holiday, so you can make sure it works properly before you go. It is very important to check the batteries from time to time. Without sufficient battery power, the system will not work as it should, resulting in losses. Many timers can have "teething" problems at the beginning, but like with any device once you get the hang of it, automatic watering systems work very well. Happy holiday.

Your gardening questions and comments are welcome. Contact Batsheva Mink, P.O.B. 3943, Jerusalem 91039, or David Brauner, morris@mail.biu.ac.il (writing "for David" in the subject line).

### TIP OF THE WEEK

Because of their porousness, clay pots, particularly small ones, lose water very quickly in hot weather. Place clay pots in larger plastic pots or buckets surrounded by wet peat moss to keep them cool and moist.

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## It's strictly for the birds

### Heads 'N' Tails



By Dvora Ben Shaul

Bird watching is a far cry from actually having a pet - yet people still grow very fond of their regular avian visitors. We get a lot of mail about bird watching, with requests for advice on how to attract some fine-feathered friends.

While bird tables, baths and gardens can all be effective, bird-watchers living on the ground floor will probably find the garden their best option.

It's not too late to plant a bird garden. At this time of year you still have a week or two to get started - but do it now.

Spade up a bit of earth: a plot measuring two meters by one and a half will be sufficient for your first try. If possible, plant the bird garden where the plot will get some shade from trees and bushes, or use some posts and agricultural shade netting for the first weeks.

Water the plot thoroughly and deeply for two or three days to cool the soil, then sow it liberally with sunflower seed, packaged mixed bird seed, and, if you can get it, some sorghum and sesame.

Sunflowers, Jerusalem artichokes, salvia and bignonia will also attract birds; so will hibiscus and mulberry trees.

Water your plot daily to give you a good seed garden by mid-September. And in the meantime, the green sprouts will lure birds during the summer - so do sow liberally.

Bird tables are less successful here than in the US or Europe, partly because of our mild winters. If you want to try one, place it near some trees and shrubs. If you



A young sunbird drinks honey-water from a test tube tied to a plant in the photographer's garden. (Werner Braun)

have to put your bird table on a bare balcony - where a bird normally wouldn't think of looking for food - surround it with containers planted with salvia, yellow jasmine and blooming shrubs. A few tall sunflowers, a Jerusalem artichoke and some sunflowers in pots will also help.

Any avian visitors venturing near should be offered sprouts

and some soft fruit. I use the leftover fruit from my local supermarket, where they give it to me without any charge.

Another way to attract birds is by setting a small sprinkler amid some bushes - but make sure that neither the bath nor the food table is in a position that will expose the birds to the mercies of marauding cats.

If your balcony has a large glass

window or glass doors, put up a curtain to prevent birds flying into the glass and killing themselves.

Note: If you enjoy your bird garden this year - even if you started late - get a head start next year and plant around Pessah. That way you will have plenty of seeds for the young, gaily colored finches when they leave their nests and begin to flock and search for food.

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in brief

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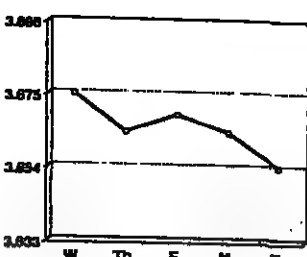
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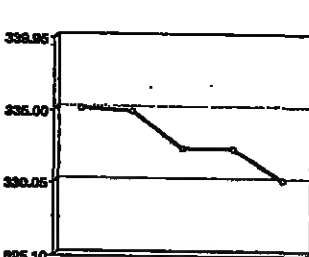
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in brief

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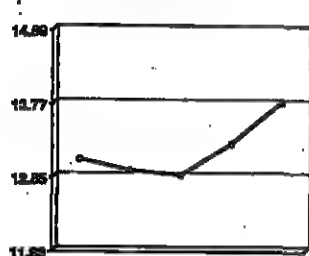
GOLD

\$ per ounce

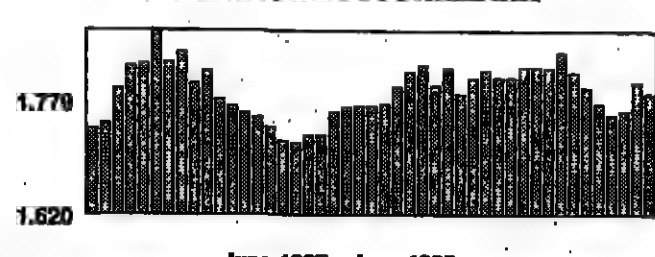


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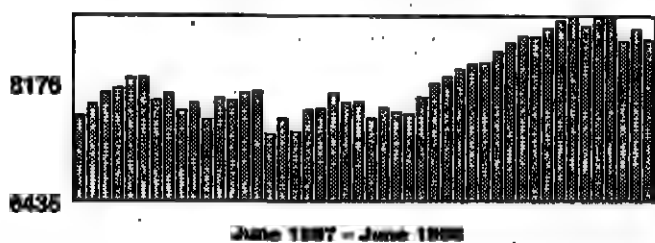
\$ per barrel of Brent crude



DOLLAR / DEUTSCHEMARK



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### Provident funds favor Koor

The share of Koor Industries is the most popular among provident funds, according to a quarterly report published yesterday by Meitav Investments and Securities. According to the survey, the largest five provident funds together held Koor shares valued at NIS 736 million. Other popular shares include IDB Development Corp., Israel Discount Bank, Bank Leumi, and Clal Israel. Among Israeli shares traded on Nasdaq, excluding shares which are also traded on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange, the most popular shares are Scitex Corp., ECI Telecom, and Tadiran Telecommunications.

Dan Gerstenfeld

### Electric Corp. to raise \$500 million abroad

The Israel Electric Corp. intends to raise some \$500 million next month by issuing bonds in the US, board chairman Gad Ya'acobi said yesterday. The firm last year raised \$1.2 billion in the US and Japan by issuing global medium-term notes. Ya'acobi said the company's production and sales rose 11 percent the last two years despite the fact that the number of workers remained unchanged.

Dan Gerstenfeld

### Electronics exports up 16%

Exports by electronics manufacturers in the first third of the year totaled \$2 billion, up 16.4 percent in dollar terms compared with the same period last year, the Manufacturers Association said yesterday. Uri Har said the high-tech products include telecommunications, medical, and industrial equipment and electronic components. Exports of military equipment, which comprise about 17.5% of electronics exports, were up 16.5%. Forty-five percent of the equipment goes to North America, 35% to Europe, and some 20% to other countries. In 1997 electronics exports totaled \$5.7 billion.

Nina Gilbert

### Polgat fined for misleading customers

Polgat has been fined NIS 10,000 by the Haifa Magistrate's Court for misleading customers in a discount scheme with Visa last fall. Polgat, which manufactures clothing and has retail stores nationwide, advertised in large signs on its store that customers would receive a 40% discount in exchange for Visa points for any purchase in the chain. However, industry and Trade Minister inspectors found that the deal was limited to purchases only up to NIS 1,000. Judge Ron Sokol found Polgat guilty of misleading consumers.

Nina Gilbert

## Tadmor: Third large bank 'a great idea'

By DAVID HARRIS

A new rival to Israel's top two commercial banks would be a welcome development, Antitrust Authority Director David Tadmor said yesterday.

Speaking at a debate on competition and privatization, he said such a move would be good for competition.

"A third large bank is a great idea in the form of a merger of two other banks," he said.

The reasoning behind his comments is the sense that most activity takes place in Bank Hapoalim and Bank Leumi. While the merger of two smaller banks would reduce the overall number of competitors, it would still lead to an increase in competition.

Talk of a third major player has

been heightened in recent days amid rumors that Israel Discount Bank plans to merge with one of the other top five banks, either United Mizrahi Bank or First International Bank. Authority officials also indicated they would welcome the entry of a foreign competitor.

During the same discussion, outgoing Supervisor of Banks Ze'ev Abeles said that preventing commercial banks from managing provident funds will prove a costly exercise.

"We must find alternative proposals," said Abeles, who announced his departure from the central bank on Sunday. "There's a reality that the banks are already in this area of activity. One cannot simply say they must leave it, the issue should first be checked."

CEO of Arison Investments Shlomo Nehama said that at a time when banks abroad are becoming increasingly involved in financial services, it would be a mistake for Israel to move in the opposite direction. "You must look at the facts, there's competition between the provident funds today," said Nehama, who will be appointed tomorrow as Bank Hapoalim chairman.

In a wide-ranging debate, former Antitrust Authority director Yoram Turbovicz said the privatization program "has so far been too little and not deep enough."

In his opinion, natural monopolies should remain in government hands and under state supervision. He also condemned the partial sales of national assets such as El Al. Here, even full state ownership

is better than a mix of public and private shareholders, he said.

Former finance minister Dan Meridor was asked why the government and Knesset fought against his push for competition: "You should ask them, but my guess is it was because of the reaction of the workers."

Meridor said he was displeased at the ongoing failure to reform the capital markets, two years after the Brodet committee called for a radical shake up of the sector.

Completing his attack on the government's failure to implement a policy of competition, Meridor described the Israel Electric Corporation monopoly as a "total disgrace" and said it is only now that anyone is beginning to tackle Egged and Dan.

Backing Meridor's view, former Government Companies Authority director general Tamar Ben David said "the political authority doesn't have sufficient power to do what it should."

In the upcoming 1999 state budget debate, proposals will be aired for increased competition across a broad spectrum of activities, according to State Budget Director David Milgrom.

"The 1999 budget will provide for an acceleration of investment, by opening more sectors to competition," Milgrom said.

Among those likely to be targeted by the Treasury are air-freight services, electricity generation, and satellite communications. "Until there is competition the public must realize it is they who pay the price."



Indonesians demand aid

A group of Indonesian activists demonstrates outside the US Embassy in Jakarta yesterday, accusing the International Monetary Fund of 'neo-colonialism' for delaying economic aid.

(Reuters)

## Goldman Sachs to expand local interests

By DAVID HARRIS

Investment house Goldman Sachs is to develop its interests here at a much faster rate than previously, according to GS International vice-chairman Robert Hormats.

"Our involvement to date is just the beginning, which we see as a very good start," said Hormats. "We regard [Israel] as a major commitment, we feel very comfortable here as individuals."

The company was here in force for the annual Israel Democracy Institute economic conference, held for the first time in Zichron Ya'acov.

Hormats said there are great investment opportunities here both for his company and its clients, who include Ralph Lauren, Sears, and Timberland.

For such non-high-tech firms, he believes joint ventures are possible with traditional Israeli industries, taking advantage of what the country also has to offer in the technological field.

"We see Israel as an enormous opportunity for us largely because of the very high quality of the people, the educational system, and the way Israel has really plugged into the information age."

This executive viewpoint did not

appear to have changed after a 90-minute verbal attack on the Bank of Israel's monetary policies Monday night. After that debate, which showed how angry the business and academic communities are with the central bank, one GS chief described the encounter as "stimulating."

The company, which dates back to 1869, has long had interests in Israel, but these really began to blossom some two years ago. "It seemed to us that when we get involved in a market we want to do it where there are opportunities for companies in that market to raise capital and we have expertise that can be utilized to their advantage," explained Goldman vice-chairman and investment banking head Robert Hurst.

In deciding to enter the Israeli market, Goldman looked at a number of reports on dozens of countries' economic performances and found the local high-tech industry always ranked at, or near, the top of the listings.

Hormats added that Goldman is prepared to help Israeli companies find overseas financing where potential investors are looking for new markets.

"It was only in the last couple of years, with the explosion of high-

tech offerings and the opening up of the economy for investment that the opportunities were really there for us," said Hurst.

In his speech to the conference, Hurst said, "As we think about countries in the world that present significant opportunities for Goldman Sachs to give advice, trading, research coverage, and provide capital for investments, Israel is at the top of our list. We are very committed to this market - both to the public and private sectors."

Goldman, which started its activity in Israel only last March, last week purchased 3.6 percent of Bank Hapoalim for some \$130 million from the government and the Arison Group. Earlier this year the American investment bank purchased 9.5% of IDB Holdings Corporation for NIS 282m.

Industry sources say that during the last several months Goldman has established its position as one of the most aggressive international players in the local capital market. The investment firm was also involved in a number of initial public offerings of Israeli companies abroad.

With Goldman about to go public and therefore under much scrutiny, its overseas activities are crucial at the moment. Clearly in the company's mind now, more than ever, is the risk factor in any new market, but Hurst maintains the turbulent Middle Eastern backdrop to involvement in Israel is not a major influence on policy towards Israel.

"For us I don't think that is really a big issue," said Hurst. "Clearly there are some additional risks, but if you're a global firm you're dealing with risks all the time, be it credit or currency. In the scheme of things the risk aspect is just not as much of a factor than in some less developed countries."

Hormats admitted some of his clients are concerned by political events, "but I think many of them work with a view that this will be worked out over the longer run."

Hurst and Hormats were not prepared to discuss details of individ-

ual clients' activities in Israel, nor indeed the company's own plans for the future here, other than to say "more of the same," in the case of Hurst and "we're looking to expand here," according to Hormats.

For the time being, Goldman does not have a representative office in Israel and so far has no intention of changing that. Hormats, whose company has enlisted the services of top Israeli analyst Daniel Carasso, maintains there is no need to open an office here, but promised the firm will considerably increase its coverage.

"We see a widening of investor activity into a gradual diversification of smaller cap stocks, as many of the favored top 25 shares begin to reach their full economic value," the report said.

Until now foreign investors have usually refrained from investing in small companies, as lower liquidity makes it more difficult for them to sell their holdings without causing a sharp decrease in share prices.

According to Lehman's analysis, inflation will reach 3.5-4 percent this year, with the next two consumer price indexes expected to post only a marginal increase.

The CPI is currently running at 4%-5% through May.

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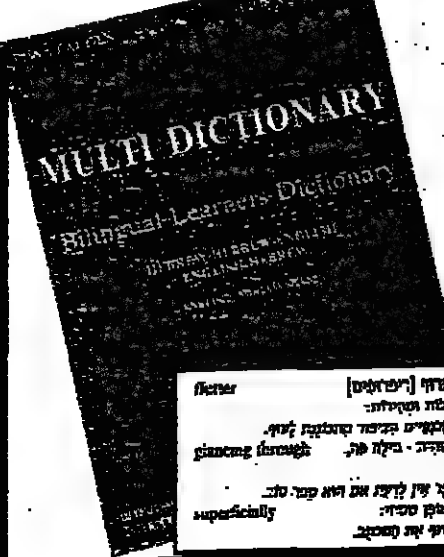
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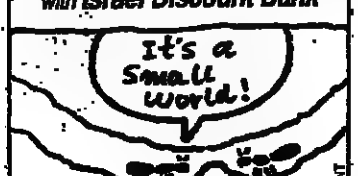
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Differing opinions  
Brussels bourse chief O  
Lefebvre begs to differ.  
The Brussels, Amsterdam

The proximity factor counts. Even in Atlanta, which lists world-class industries, the home market remains i

unique value: being the place where buyers and sellers could trade securities and exchange information.

stocks as a class, held through and thin, have done well. Even there have been periods of more than a decade when markets

Neil's Portfolio		No. of shares	Cost/share	T
Citrus Properties convertible		10,416.60	0.96	
Teco		7.24	1,035.60	
Bank Tefahot		6.22	1,303.34	
Cital Israel		143.68	68.60	
Carmel Container		241.00	99.00	
Dien Hotels		425.65	8.81	
Jaffa Tabori		556.80	8.96	
Jaffa Tabori		640.00	7.79	

Deforest	Zur Shamin 3 convertible				
	1 Month deposit at 12%				
	Total portfolio value				

Unit cost	Current price	Current value
0.025	1.12	11,583.26
7.499	1,337.00	9,682.55
8.101	2,145.00	13,332.02
0.025	103.70	14,899.51
0.028	\$8.63	10,790.99
3.769	11.90	5,065.21
5.025	8.09	4,504.51
5.010	9.27	5,932.80
5.025	4.85	6,948.40

100,000		108,570.4
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and thin, have done well. Even  
there have been periods of  
than a decade when markets

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The original plans prescribed safety for closed businesses on MONDAY. They should be used as a guide only and not as the basis for planning. The Terrorism Unit is not responsible for the accuracy of the plans.



LAST	CHANGE
29	+0.625

[illegible]

Northeast Util	18.25	+0.375
Novell	12.6675	-0.0625
Ntnm Sate Pwr	26.625	-0.3125
Northrop	80.3125	+0.3125
Norwest Corp	30	+0.625
NSI	0.75	+0.0625

[illegible]

\*In local currencies



# Stocks fall on Japan fears

## Wall Street

NEW YORK (AP) — Leading stock measures rose sharply yesterday as big-name technology stocks rallied for a second day and energy shares rose amid hopes for a rebound in oil prices.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 117 to 8,828. Broader indexes also posted big gains, with the technology-heavy Nasdaq composite rising more than two percent.

IBM rose sharply as the Dow's strongest component for a second straight day. Hewlett-Packard, the Dow's other technology issue, also posted a sizable gain.

Microsoft's shares soared after a federal court threw out a preliminary injunction that had barred the company from packaging its Internet browser with its popular Windows operating system.

According to preliminary calculations, the Dow Jones industrial average increased 117.33 to 8,828.46.

The Standard and Poor's 500 rose 16.27 to 1,119.49.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite increased 38.75 to 1,844.57, the third biggest point gain ever.

Advancing issues outnumbered decliners by a 3-to-2 margin on the New York Stock Exchange, with 1,827 up, 1,207 down and 513 unchanged.

NYSE volume totaled 632.54 million shares as of 4 p.m., up sharply from Monday's modest tally of 527.71 million.

The NYSE composite index rose 6.75 to 571.63, and the American Stock Exchange composite index rose 69.60.

## STOCKS



Maot 330.05 +1.4%

Dow Jones 8828 +1.35%

FTSE 5772 +1.04%

Nikkei 15054.6 +1.66%

## Asia

its "buy" recommendation on Nice Systems Ltd., a maker of voice and fax archiving equipment.

"It's entering a new phase of profitability," Phillips said, as "it's making inroads in the call-center market." Nice, which had fallen as low as NIS 126, closed at NIS 127.1, down 0.86 percent.

## Tel Aviv

The TASE fell yesterday on concern the recession in Japan will slash profits of companies that depend on exports to the world's second-largest economy.

Koor Industries Ltd., the country's largest exporter, led the decline, falling 3.17 percent to NIS 427. Tadiran Ltd., which exports telecommunications equipment to Asia, fell 1.40 percent to 119.90, pulling the Maot Index of Israel's 25 largest companies down 0.64 percent to 330.05.

"The Far East is still high on people's agenda," said Keith Phillips, analyst at SG Securities Ltd., a unit of Societe Generale. "Nervousness is not unfounded, because we don't know how it'll play out."

Asian stock markets fell yesterday, led by Japan and South Korea. Among other declining Israeli shares, Super-Sol Ltd., Israel's largest supermarket operator, declined 1.18 percent to NIS 11.94. Bezeq Ltd., Israel's state-controlled phone company, fell 1.26 percent to NIS 11.76.

Osem Investment Ltd., a food manufacturer, recovered about half of its earlier losses after SG Securities revised its opinion to "buy" from "hold" on the shares.

"Food manufacturers were out of favor globally for a long time. Now they're back, and Osem is cheap in international terms," Phillips said. Osem closed down 0.70 percent at 18.36 shekels.

Nestle SA this week bought a 7.4 percent stake in Osem for about \$33 million, boosting its stake to 47.1 percent.

SG Securities also maintained

Asian stocks fell, led by Japan and South Korea, as investors showed they were unimpressed with government efforts across the region to ward off recession.

Benchmark indexes tumbled in Singapore, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Thailand. Stocks were mixed in Hong Kong, Australia, and Indonesia. The dollar fell against the yen, as well as the Thai baht, Malaysian ringgit, and other Southeast Asian currencies.

In Tokyo, Obayashi Corp., a builder known for its anti-earthquake technology, led declines amid skepticism the government would keep the vague promises given trading partners to accelerate Japan's economic recovery.

"The government is making a lot of noise about cleaning up the bad-loan mess, but we haven't heard much of anything about more tax cuts," said Hitoshi Yajima, director of Tachibana Investment & Management Co.

"That silence says it all," Japan is Asia's largest lender and investor, as well as a major trading partner for many nations in the region. Lack of action on its economic and banking troubles has frustrated Southeast Asian countries, which were hoping for an export-

led recovery.

Japan's Nikkei 225 Stock Index fell 254.49 points, or 1.66 percent, to 15,054.60. The yen rose as high as 137.80 to the dollar.

South Korean stocks fell with the from banks pushing for the liquidation of more insolvent companies.

Last week, the banks published a list of 55 companies they will stop supporting with loans, including 20 minor affiliates of the five largest groups — Hyundai, Samsung, Daewoo, LG and SK.

"Investors are concerned banks will name bigger companies (for the liquidation) this time to show their strong commitment to reforms," said Kim Jung Kook, a chief analyst at Samsung Securities Co.

## Europe

UK stocks were mixed as higher oil prices and speculation British Telecom's shares will link up with AT&T Corp. boosted companies on Britain's benchmark index, while the threat of

# Dollar rises vs mark on Russia concern

## CURRENCIES

Dollar 1.6540 +0.27%

Mark 2.0345 +0.17%

Sterling 1.0399 +0.15%

Yen 137.80 +0.10%

Swiss 1.4850 +0.10%

French 6.5450 +0.10%

Italian 1.3650 +0.10%

Spanish 166.64 +0.10%

Portuguese 200.48 +0.10%

Greek 340.75 +0.10%

Israeli 1.8000 +0.10%

Chinese 8.2750 +0.10%

Indian 47.80 +0.10%

Japanese 137.80 +0.10%

South African 13.75 +0.10%

South Korean 170.00 +0.10%

Thai 35.50 +0.10%

Taiwan 24.50 +0.10%

Malaysian 3.80 +0.10%

Singapore 1.35 +0.10%

Hong Kong 7.75 +0.10%

Philippine 49.00 +0.10%

Indonesian 1,600.00 +0.10%

Brunei 1.66 +0.10%

Myanmar 12.50 +0.10%

Laos 200.00 +0.10%

Cambodia 1,000.00 +0.10%

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North Vietnam 20.00 +0.10%

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## Inside

## Yanks rally past Braves

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## England's Owenly hope

Page 17

Sports Editors  
Joe Hoffman & Ori Lewis

## Benefit game to be held for policeman's family

BORDEAUX (Reuters) - A benefit match will be held for the family of the policeman gravely injured by a soccer hooligan during the World Cup on Sunday.

The match will be held at the Colombes stadium on the outskirts of Paris before the World Cup ends on July 12. The date has not yet been decided.

Former German international Franz Beckenbauer, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Klaus Allofs have agreed to play in the match, being organized by Cemot Rohr and Uwe Reinders. Germans who formerly played with French club Girondins Bordeaux.

Policeman Daniel Nivel has been in a deep coma since being clubbed and kicked by German hooligans after a World Cup match on Sunday. A hospital spokesman said yesterday he had suffered irreversible brain damage.

## Norway beat Brazil to make 2nd round

Chile, Italy also qualify; Morocco on their way home despite 3-0 win over Scotland



**TODAY AT THE WORLD CUP**  
Group C  
S. Africa - Saudi Arabia  
Bordeaux 17:00 (Eurosport)  
France - Denmark Lyon 17:00 (One)  
Group D  
Nigeria - Paraguay Toulouse 22:00 (Eurosport)  
Spain - Bulgaria Lens 22:00 (One)

**YESTERDAY'S RESULTS**  
Group B  
Italy 2, Austria 1  
Chile 1, Cameroon 1  
Group A  
Norway 2, Brazil 1  
Morocco 3, Scotland 0

MARSEILLE (Reuters) - An 89th minute penalty by Kjetil Rekdal gave Norway an astonishing 2-1 win over champions Brazil yesterday and a place in the second round of the World Cup.

The scoreline broke the hearts of Morocco who had thrashed Scotland 3-0 in St Etienne only to be denied by a great comeback from Norway who had trailed Brazil 1-0 with just 12 minutes left.

But Tore Andre Flo equalized in the 83rd minute with a typical bustling goal and then Rekdal scored the penalty to make him the hero of all Norway.

Bebeto's header from close range in the 78th minute had looked enough to give Brazil victory but Norway came storming back for a famous success.

Brazil, already through to the last 16 after winning their first two games, lacked the sparkle the 60,000 fans in the Velodrome stadium had expected from the reigning champions and tournament favorites.

They were assailed by a barrage of whistles at several points in the match as they sauntered through the game, passing the ball among

themselves with Norway unable to seize the initiative.

Rivaldo came close 10 minutes into the second half after Roberto Carlos made a fine run down the left flank and floated in a cross which the Barcelona midfielder met with a header which bounced down off the turf and over the crossbar.

Roberto Carlos had raised expectations in the 11th minute when Brazil were awarded a free-kick a third of the way into the Norway half. His fierce left-foot drive was full of power and bang on target and goalkeeper Frode Grodas was happy to punch it out.

Norway, who drew both their previous matches against Morocco and Scotland, packed their midfield to try to stifle the Brazilians and began to pose a threat on the counter-attack as the first half wore on.

Flo, their lone striker, crashed in a shot in the 29th minute but fired it straight at goalkeeper Taffarel then did well to win a corner on the right a minute later only for the kick to be wasted.

Flo created a good opening in the 69th minute for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who had come on as substitute for Flo's cousin Havard only a minute earlier. But the Manchester United striker could not get a firm header in.

Flo himself came closer with a fine header in the 73rd minute but the ball flew just wide.

But nobody could have predicted such an amazing finale.

**Morocco 3, Scotland 0**  
ST ETIENNE - Morocco beat Scotland 3-0 but their fine effort was in vain as Norway and Brazil qualified for the World Cup second round.

Morocco took the lead in the 22nd minute through Salaheddine Bassir against the flow of play then stunned the Scots with a second goal two minutes after halftime.

It was always going to be an uphill battle after that and when midfielder Craig Burley was sent off in the 54th minute for a tackle from behind, their chance of a comeback had gone.

The first goal came from a long ball which caught the Scotland



LEONARDO RISETH - Brazil's Leonardo, right, is tackled by Norway's Vidar Riseth during yesterday's match at the Velodrome stadium in Marseille. (AP)

defense flat-footed and striker Bassir lashed home a left-foot shot.

Scotland tried to respond with striker Gordon Durie probing both down the left and through the middle but to no avail.

Morocco's keeper Driss Benzekri looked less than secure on crosses and Scotland tried to get the ball down the flanks so they could swing it into the goal area.

The Scots did pressure the Moroccans in the run-up to half-time with Kevin Gallacher going close with a header, but they could not get back on level terms.

Then just two minutes into the second half Morocco's Abdeljalil Hadda broke down the left flank outpacing David Weir and drove in a high shot.

Scotland keeper Leighton got both his hands to the ball but failed to stop it looping over his head and across the line.

Morocco's fans behind Leighton's goal went into a dance of delight, which turned to tears after the whistle when they learned

Norway had beaten Brazil and robbed them of a place in the second round.

Bassir added a third goal in the 84th minute when he tricked his way past two Scottish defenders.

**Italy 2, Austria 1**

PARIS - Italy clinched a place in the last 16 after goals from Christian Vieri, his fourth of the World Cup, and substitute Roberto Baggio gave them a 2-1 win over Austria.

A 49th-minute header from Vieri - now equal top scorer with Argentina's Gabriel Batistuta - and a last-minute tap-in from Baggio ensured the Italians top place in group B and a rendezvous with Norway on Saturday.

For the third straight match Austria scored in injury time but Andy Herzog's penalty, officially timed at 91 minutes, was too late to save them from defeat and elimination. Chile, who drew 1-1 with Cameroon, qualified as runners-up in group B.

Austria tried to snuff out the

Italian frontliner with some fearsome tackling, especially in the first half, but Italy always looked the more inventive and technically superior team.

The first goal came after 49 minutes following a foul on Alessandro Del Piero by Peter Schuster, who was lucky to stay on the pitch after being booked in the last minute of the first half for clattering Vieri.

Del Piero took the free kick himself and the ball hit the Austrian goalkeeper. Vieri stepped in to head the ball past Michael Kinsler. The goal maintained his record of scoring in every match.

Austria, forced to start concentrating on their own game, began to put Italy under some pressure, and were only denied an equalizer by an outstanding 66th minute double-save from Gianluca Pagliuca.

Austria had saved themselves from defeat in their opening two matches by scoring injury-time equalizers and with Italy missing a

succession of chances in the second half, Austria always appeared to have a chance of saving the game.

But it was Italy who netted again. Filippo Inzaghi - who came on for Vieri after an hour - broke free on the right hand side of the defense and played a perfect square ball across the goal, leaving Baggio the simplest of tap-ins from a meter out. Baggio had replaced Del Piero in the 73rd minute.

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Group A Final table	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brazil	3	2	0	1	6	3	6
Norway	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
Morocco	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Scotland	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

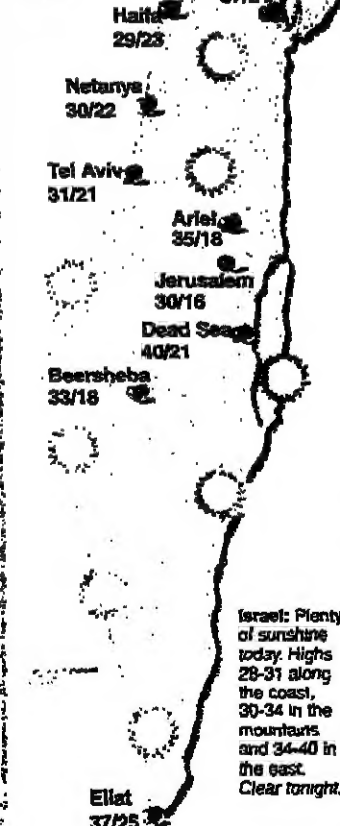
Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Italy	3	2	1	0	7	3	7
Chile	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Austria	3	0	2	1	3	4	2
Cameroon	3	0	2	1	2	5	2

## AIR CANADA

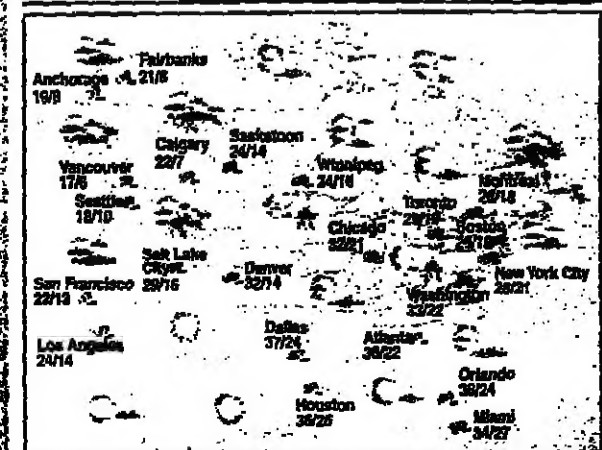
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## THE WEATHER

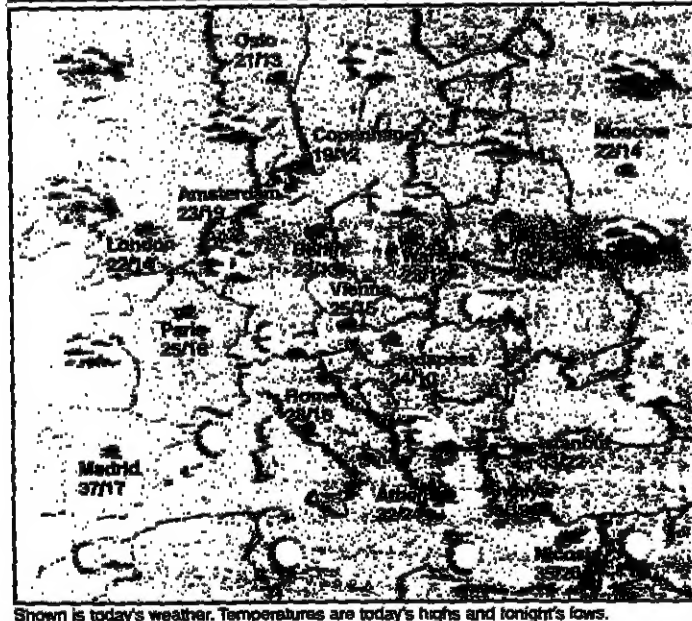
ISRAEL  
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## NORTH AMERICA WEATHER TODAY



## EUROPE WEATHER TODAY



ISRAEL CITIES	Today	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
City	High Low	High Low	High Low	High Low
Haifa	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Tel Aviv	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Jerusalem	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Beer Sheva	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Dead Sea	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Eilat	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Jerusalem	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Katzen	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Netanya	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
RAA	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Tel Aviv	35/25	35/25	35/25	35/25
Weather (W):	Partly cloudy, c. 20-30°C; showers, 14-20°C; Partly cloudy, c. 20-30°C; Partly cloudy, c. 20-30°C.			

INTERNATIONAL CITIES	Today	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
City	High Low	High Low	High Low	High Low
Amsterdam	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Brussels	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
London	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Los Angeles	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Madrid	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Moscow	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
New York	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Paris	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Rome	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Stockholm	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Tokyo	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Toronto	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Vancouver	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Washington	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15
Zurich	20/15	20/15	20/15	20/15

## Hingis, Novotna pass first hurdle

LONDON (Reuters) - Defending champion Martina Hingis weathered the valiant challenge of American Lisa Raymond and twice runner-up Jana Novotna made short work of her lowly-ranked Czech rival on a rain-affected second day at Wimbledon yesterday.

Hingis, who last year became the youngest player to win the Open era at 16 years, nine months and five days, started gingerly but benefited from a 90-minute rain break to dispose of Raymond 7-5, 6-3.

Novotna, the form grass-court player leading into the tournament following her success in Eastbourne last week, was less troubled by her first-round opponent Sandra Kleinova who managed to take only four games off the third seed.

The weather called most of the shots on a typically fickle June day in London, play starting some 40 minutes behind schedule on the show courts and nearly three hours late on the outside courts.

Only 11 of the 64 matches scheduled were completed as the players spent most of the day in the locker-room, and the spectators spent their money on Pimm's and strawberries and cream.

Fourth seed Greg Rusedski, who has been struggling with an ankle injury suffered a fortnight ago at the warmup Queen's tournament, was in deep trouble when rain finally called a halt to play.

The Canadian-born Briton took the first set against Australian qualifier Mark Draper, but lost the second and was down a break at 5-4 in the third when the covers were pulled back on in the fading evening light.

Draper's compatriots, US Open champion Pat Rafter, and last year's semifinalist Todd Woodbridge managed to successfully complete their matches, while 1996 champion Richard Krajicek was comfortably placed at 6-3, 7-6 against New Zealand's Brett Steven.

Raymond, ranked 19 in the world, was one of only five players to beat Hingis last year and must have nipped her missed chances when her Swiss



Defending champion Martina Hingis plays a return to Lisa Raymond during their first round Women's Singles match on Wimbledon's Center Court yesterday.

rival looked decidedly nervous early in the match.

The American broke Hingis's serve but still lost the opening set, which took 52 minutes, and probably would have preferred to carry on when the skies darkened overhead and the pair were called from the court.

In the break Hingis was able to re-evaluate her tactics and looked more like last year's champion when she came out the second time around.

Starting at 2-1 up after the break, the Swiss prodigy took barely 20 minutes to finish off her rival.

"It was very tough first round for sure," said the 17-year-old Hingis.

"When you open your defence at Wimbledon you don't really want to play the number 19 in the world who you lost to last time. I would rather have easier matches."

"I had to give everything to just get through the first round," Novotna, who wears an abdominal support as the legacy of an injury suffered in the semifinals here last year, took only 71 minutes to dispose of Kleinova in a match which became a clash of the walking wounded.

Kleinova played on after treatment for a knee injury sustained after slipping on the damp grass in the second game and was grateful for the chance to get some more treatment when play was stopped due to the weather.

But the interruption did not help her as last year's losing finalist came out with all guns blazing, finishing off Kleinova in a matter of minutes.

Seventh seed Venus Williams, who has high expectations at Wimbledon after reaching at least the last 16 in her last three Grand Slams, entered unexplored territory by beating Canada's Jana Novotna 6-3, 6-3.

It was the American teenager's first victory on the famed Wimbledon grass courts after she was eliminated in the first round last year.

Rusedski, a quarter-finalist at Wimbledon last year, was clearly feeling the effects of his ankle injury and gave up the chase on several occasions when the point was still there for the taking.

His lethal service weapon, which has been clocked at a world record 149 mph, misfired badly.

He double-faulted 18 times, and was even out-aced by 238th ranked opponent who only came to England to watch his brother Scott and then found himself in the main draw after advancing through the qualifiers.

Rafter, a natural grass-court player, beat Ivo Heubeger of Switzerland 6-1, 6-2, 4-6, 6-1 to carry on from where he left off last week in the Netherlands where he won the Den Bosch title.

Security Council hear evidence of Iraqi nerve gas weapons

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